MINARI
ENDOU
1
MARIA HOLIC

MARIA†HOLIC

MARIA HOLIC 1

Prayer 01
Girl Meets Boy(?)
05

Prayer 02
The Tale of the First Change of Clothes
35

Prayer 03
The Tale of the First Day of School Part ①
45

Prayer 04
The Tale of the First Day of School Part ②
57

Prayer 05
The Tale of the Underdog Who Came Out on Top
85

Prayer 06
The Tale of the Girl with White Knight Syndrome
115

Prayer 07
The Tale of the Girl Who Wanted to Make 100 Friends
143

Spin-Out
The Matsurika Diaries
169

MARIA HOLIC

DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN...
YOUR KANAKO HAS FINALLY ARRIVED!
ざざざっ
SCUFF SCUFF
HERE, AT THE SCHOOL WHERE YOU AND FATHER MET...
AME NO KISAKI JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
天の妃女学院附属
中学高等学校
...I, TOO, SHALL FIND MY SOUL MATE!
ばんっ
BAM

Prayer01
Girl Meets Boy(?)

...WHEW.
MAN, THIS CAMPUS IS ENORMOUS.
I'M WALKING DOWN A PAVED ROAD HERE, SO I CAN'T REALLY GET LOST...
GLANCE
GLANCE
STILL, I'M SURPRISED THAT I HAVEN'T SEEN A SINGLE PERSON YET.
OH!
SOMEONE'S COMING THIS WAY?
GOOD, I CAN ASK HER FOR DIRECTIONS.
EXCUSE ME, IS THIS...
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, YOU SOW?

HUH?!
173CM
RECORD CURRENTLY BEING UPDATED.
THE HUGE EIFFEL TOWER OF SOWS.
PLEASE DON'T TRY AND PRETEND YOU DIDN'T HEAR WHAT I SAID. I WAS TALKING TO YOU.
I must be hearing things...
UMM... SORRY, BUT COULD I ASK YOU FOR SOME DIRECTIONS?

WHAT'S ALL THIS COMMOTION, MATSURIKA?
WHAT?! NO WAY! OKAY THEN, I TAKE IT BACK!!
TOKYO TOWER IS TALLER THAN THE EIFFEL TOWER.
AT LEAST CALL ME "TOKYO TOWER" OR SOME-THING!!
I'M NOT SO TALL THAT I'VE GOT WORLD-WIDE STATUS!

I'M TRANS-FERRING IN TO AME NO KISAKI TOMORROW.
SURE.
IS IT ALL RIGHT IF I CALL YOU KANAKO-SAN?
UMM...

ARE YOU A STUDENT FROM AME NO KISAKI?
HUH?

OH... SO THAT'S WHY YOU DIDN'T RECOGNIZE ME.
THIS AREA IS ACTUALLY MY FAMILY'S ESTATE.
IT'S ON THE SCHOOL CAMPUS, THOUGH, SO I UNDERSTAND YOUR CONFUSION.
NORMALLY, STUDENTS DON'T REALLY COME DOWN TO THIS END, SO THAT'S WHY SHE WAS SUSPICIOUS OF YOU.
PLEASE FORGIVE MY MAID'S RUDENESS.
NO, I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE APOLOGIZING.
ER...?
MARIYA.
I'M SHIDOU MARIYA.
MARIYA... SAN? DO YOU ALSO GO TO AME NO KISAKI?
YOUR UNIFORM IS DIFFERENT, THOUGH...
I'm starting high school tomorrow.
THIS IS THE MIDDLE SCHOOL UNIFORM.
TOMORROW IS THE HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE CEREMONY, SO TODAY IS MY LAST CHANCE TO WEAR IT.
IT'S RARE FOR A SECOND-YEAR STUDENT TO CHANGE SCHOOLS.
AND AME NO KISAKI IS A MISSION SCHOOL WHERE THE MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL SECTIONS ARE CONNECTED, SO WE HARDLY GET ANY NEW STUDENTS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL.
UMM...
MY PARENTS ARE ALUMNI OF AME NO KISAKI, SO THEY MIGHT HAVE BENT THE RULES A BIT...
YOUR PARENTS ARE?
But it's an all-girls school.
Oh!
NO! MY FATHER WAS A TEACHER HERE.
OH MY!!
CLAP CLAP

THAT'S WONDERFUL.
THE HOLY VIRGIN MUST HAVE LED THEM TO EACH OTHER.
I KNOW, RIGHT?!
I WAS ALSO KIND OF HOPING...
...THAT I COULD MEET A SPECIAL SOMEONE HERE AS WELL.
BUT ALL OF THE MALE TEACHERS AT AME NO KISAKI ARE A BIT TOO OLD FOR YOU, SO YOU MAY NOT WANT TO GET YOUR HOPES UP...
HUH?!
GOSH! NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...
THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU MEANT?
ER... NEVER MIND! FORGET WHAT I SAID!!
SNICKER
YOU'RE A STRANGE ONE, AREN'T YOU?
STILL, SHE'S REALLY PRETTY.
BY THE WAY, KANAKO-SAN, DO YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND?
IT'S... NOT LIKE I COULD COME OUT WITH MY SECRET HERE...
GLANCE...

Tender spots...
On my neck... and my arms...
I CAN'T STAND BEING AROUND BOYS!
JUST BEING TOUCHED BY THEM MAKES ME BREAK OUT IN HIVES!
DO YOU HAVE ONE?
A BOY-FRIEND.
ERK!
THUD.
WHAAAAT?! NO NO NO NO, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!!

OH? WHAT A WASTE.
YOU'RE SO CUTE, KANAKO-SAN—I'M SURE THE GENTLEMEN DON'T LEAVE YOU ALONE.

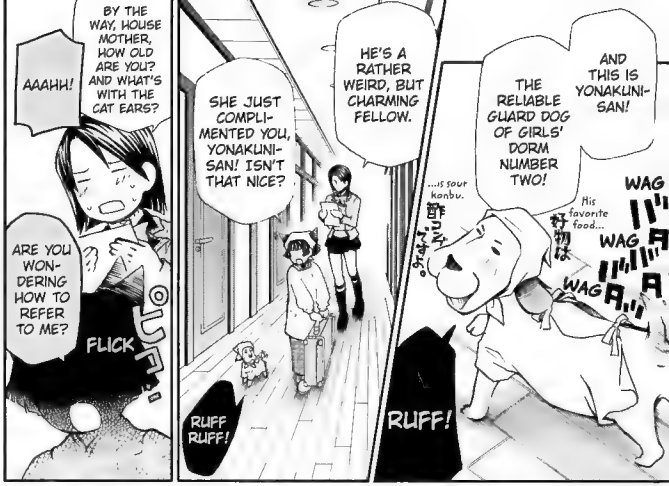
HEY, KANAKO-SAN.
COULD YOU BEND DOWN FOR ME?
SMIRK...
HUH? WHY?
JUST DO IT...
SHIFF
A BEAUTIFUL GIRL...
...TOLD ME I'M CUTE!!
Y-YOU'RE ALSO... C-C-C-CUTE, MARIYA-SAN...
UM... THANKS?
BLUSH
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

GRIN
ニコ…
WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED?!
THAT BUILDING THERE IS THE GIRLS' DORM, KANAKO-SAN.
…
I'M HEADING TO THE TRAINING HALL, SO THIS IS GOODBYE FOR NOW.
See that roof?
OH! ニあ
I'M GOING TO DO SOME SOLO ARCHERY PRACTICE RIGHT NOW, BUT WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET TOGETHER AFTERWARDS?
I COULD SHOW YOU AROUND THE SCHOOL.

IT'S GOTTA BE THAT, RIGHT?
BLUSH
A KISS!!
SHE GAVE ME A KISS!!
BLUUSH
IT WAS ON MY CHEEK, THOUGH.
WAS IT... JUST A SIGN OF AFFECTION?
Yeah! I can't get any weird expectations!
SEE YOU LATER, THEN.
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
EEEK...!
LOVELY.
WHAT?!
LIMM... ERR, I'D BE HAPPY TOO!!
WAAAH!
OH, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
MY HEART WON'T STOP POUNDING ...
BA DUM
BA DUM
BA DUM
BA DUM
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN, I HASTEN TO INFORM YOU...
...THAT YOUR KANAKO MAY HAVE MET HER ALREADY!
My destined partner!
SHIDOU MARIYA-SAN...
HER NAME LIVES UP TO HER APPEARANCE. SHE'S JUST SO RADIANT!
Instantly, I could tell that appearance's type...
...she's totally my type!

MARIYA-SAMA...
TRAINING HALL
修道館
HIVES?
HUH? は～?
HUH?
I BUILD UP SO MUCH STRESS, HAVING TO ACT LIKE AN HONOR STUDENT IN THIS GUISE, YOU KNOW.
CREAK...
INDEED.
WHAT IS IT, MATSURIKA?
WHY WOULD YOU DO SUCH A THING?
THE KISS?
OH, COME ON. DON'T BE CROSS. I WAS JUST HAVING A LITTLE FUN.

OH...
THAT'S THE FORMER CHAIR-WOMAN'S GRAND-DAUGHTER.
SHE DOESN'T LIVE AT OUR DORM, SO I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HER.
BUT SHE'S A PERSON OF VEEEERY GOOD CONDUCT, AND SHE'S ALSO AN HOOONOR STUDENT. THAT'S RIGHT...
PLAK
IS THAT SO?
UM, AND...
I HAVE ONE MORE QUESTION ...
...IS THAT YOUR PROPER TITLE?
HOUSE MOTHER!
UH HUH!
THAT'S WHAT EVERY-ONE CALLS ME.
うんせっ
HEAVE HO!
AME NO KISAKI GIRLS' DORM NUMBER TWO


BY THE WAY, HOUSE MOTHER, HOW OLD ARE YOU? AND WHAT'S WITH THE CAT EARS?
AAAHH!
ARE YOU WONDERING HOW TO REFER TO ME?
FLICK
SHE JUST COMPLIMENTED YOU, YONAKUNI-SAN! ISN'T THAT NICE?
HE'S A RATHER WEIRD, BUT CHARMING FELLOW.
RUFF RUFF!
AND THIS IS YONAKUNI-SAN!
THE RELIABLE GUARD DOG OF GIRLS' DORM NUMBER TWO!
...is sour konbu.
His favorite food...
WAG
WAG
WAG
RUFF!

TREASON ...
...MEANS DEATH.
HUH?!
SORRY I DIDN'T NOTICE ...
YOUR WISH IS TO CALL ME BY SOMETHING MORE CASUAL, YES?
THAT'S FINE. CALL ME BOSS, OR GOD, WHATEVER YOU LIKE.
G-GOD?
SURE.
ONLY CHOSEN ONES CAN BECOME HOUSE MOTHERS, AFTER ALL.

DOES THAT MEAN I SHOULDN'T ASK YOU ANYTHING, GOD?!
ANY MORE QUESTIONS?
IF YOU HAVE ANY MORE PROBLEMS, TRY ASKING SOME OF YOUR PEERS IN THE DORM.
KNOCK
KNOCK
コンコン
WAIT... BUT THE EARS!
THOSE CUTE EARS THAT KEEP TWITCHING!
HELLO, ISHIMA-SAN!
DO PLEASE OPEN UP NOW.
CREAK...
I'VE BEEN WAITING, HOUSE-MOTHER.
IS THIS THE NEW RESIDENT?
ISHIMA-SAN IS A THIRD-YEAR, SO SHE'S YOUR SENIOR BY ONE YEAR, MIYAMAE-SAN.
OH. SHE'S TALLER THAN ME?
HELLO, KANAKO-KUN. I'M ISHIMA RYUKEN.
THE PLEASURE'S ALL MINE.
SHE...
...IS...
YES. THIS IS MIYAMAE KANAKO-SAN.
...GORGEOUS!
Guh..
N-N-N-NICE TO MEET YOU!!

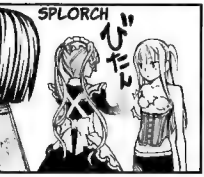
UMMM... RYUKEN... SAMA?
MY NAME IS MADE UP FROM THE KANJI RYU AND KEN.
THE RYU PART REPRESENTS A 'HEROIC STRENGTH,' AND THE KEN PART REPRESENTS 'DETERMINED FAIRNESS'...
...APPARENTLY.
SORRY TO SAY THAT I DON'T REALLY LIVE UP TO MY NAME, THOUGH.
IT STILL ISN'T TIME FOR THE OPENING CEREMONY YET, SO MOST OF THE STUDENTS ARE STILL AT HOME, BUT I REQUESTED THAT SHE COME BACK EARLY!
WHAT? FOR ME?!
I'M SO SORRY, RYUKEN-SAMA!

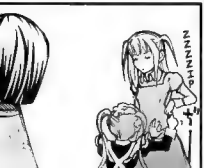
NO NEED TO WORRY, KANAKO-KUN.
I INTENDED TO COME BACK THIS MORNING ANYWAY.
CONSIDER IT DONE.
WELL, YOU HEARD HER. ISN'T THAT NICE, MIYAMAE-SAN?
UMM... ERR...
UMM ...
I'M SO THANKFUL FOR YOUR KINDNESS, BUT...
SNIFFLE
I ALREADY MADE A PROMISE WITH...
...SOME ...ONE...
INCIDENTALLY, ISHIMA-SAN...
SHE'S SO NICE!
SHE WANTS SOMEONE TO SHOW HER AROUND THE SCHOOL.
SNIFFLE

BUT IT'S OKAY! BECAUSE MARIYA-SAN IS THE ONE WHO I'M REALLY AFTER!!
OH... YOU ALREADY MADE A FRIEND?
THAT'S WONDER-FUL.
IT'S TOO BAD, BUT I'LL BE HAPPY TO ACCOMPANY YOU NEXT TIME.
AWWW, NOOO...
WHAT A WASTE...!
OKAY...
AND THUS, I SWALLOWED MY TEARS AND CAME HERE.
TRAINING HALL
修道館
BUT WE DIDN'T TALK ABOUT WHAT TIME WE'D MEET, OR WHERE.
WHAT SHOULD I DO? IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO COME AND GET HER LIKE THIS?
FIDGET
FIDGET
FIDGET
FIDGET
HAVE YOU COME TO WATCH PRACTICE?
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOUR FACE BEFORE, BUT YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE A NEW FIRST-YEAR.
YOUR RIBBON IS THE COLOR OF A SECOND-YEAR'S, AS WELL.
OH, NO... I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET SOMEONE HERE.
HER NAME IS SHIDOU-SAN...
OH, MARIYA-SAN? SHE'S OUT ON THE ARCHERY RANGE.
YOU'RE WELCOME TO COME INSIDE.

ARE YOU SURE?
OF COURSE!
BUT SOME PEOPLE ARE STILL PRACTICING, SO PLEASE KEEP QUIET.
WELL, I HOPE I'M NOT PUSHING MY LUCK INTRUDING LIKE THIS...
WHERE IS THE ARCHERY RANGE, ANYWAY?
I COULD TRY SHOUTING FOR HER... NO, THAT'S A BAD IDEA.
TEK
ぺったぺったぺったぺったぺったぺったぺったぺった
YOU KNOW, THAT GIRL JUST NOW WAS CUTE, TOO...
FIRST MARIYA-SAN, THEN RYUIKEN-SAMA...
WHAT A HIGH ENCOUNTER RATE FOR BABES!
THIS IS AMAZING! I'M SO GLAD I CAME TO AME NO KISAKI!!
HEY! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, MATSURIKA?!
MATSURIKA... ISN'T THAT THE MAID'S NAME?
IS MARIYA-SAN IN THERE TOO, THEN?
TOO CLOSE!
CREAK...
SORRY TO INTRUDE!
IS—

DON'T WORRY. BREAKING A COUPLE WON'T KILL YOU.
YOU'RE GONNA BREAK MY RIBS! AAHHH, I CAN FEEL THEM CRACKING!
DAMN YOU, WOMAN! YOU'RE SQUEEZING THE CORSET TOO TIGHT!
YANK
YANK
YANK
YANK


SPLORCH
びたん


ZNNNNH

DUMB FOUNDED
呆
ｱﾋﾞ…

ALL RIGHT, NOW TO ATTACH YOUR FAKE BOOBIES...
GGGGGH ...!
NuBra

TEK TEK TEK TEK TEK
...
TEK TEK TEK TEK
...
TEK TEK TEK TEK
...
I PROMISED TO SHOW YOU AROUND CAMPUS, DIDN'T I?
SHALL WE BE OFF THEN, KANAKO-SAN?
HUH? UM... SURE...
OH... OH MY. WHATEVER COULD BE THE MATTER, KANAKO-SAN?
WHEEZE HAH WHEEZE HFF HAHA
TOSS
DON'T ...
DON'T EVEN TRY TO PLAY DUMB!
THUD
YOU'RE NOT GONNA FOOL MEEEE!!
CRACK
SHRIP

YOU THINK I'M DRESSED UP LIKE THIS BECAUSE I WANT TO BE?
JUST TO BE CLEAR, I'M NOT A TRANSSEXUAL, AND I'M NOT SOME KIND OF PERVERT, EITHER.
YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE...
SEE?! THERE'S SOMETHING ATTACHED TO YOU!!
うわーん
WAAAAAH!
BLEH
べっ
ENOUGH WITH THE ACT!
AND TO WHAT MIGHT YOU BE REFERRING?
SQUISH
WHAT?!
I DON'T NEED TO EXPLAIN MYSELF TO THE LIKES OF YOU.
THEN... THEN WHY?!
BESIDES... HOW DO YOU HAVE ANY RIGHT TO JUDGE OTHER PEOPLE?
YOU COME TO THIS ALL-GIRLS' SCHOOL TO SEARCH FOR YOUR "SOUL MATE" OR WHATEVER...
WHAT?
ドキン
BA-DUM
YOU START SWOONING OVER MY CHARMING SELF...
HEY...
YOU TURN RED AS A CHERRY AFTER BEING KISSED, ETC...
NOOOOO...

YOU'RE A LESBIAN, AREN'T YOU?
NOOOOOOO!!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO CRUDE ABOUT IT!
SNICKER
JUST SAY "YOU'RE INTO YURI"! THAT SOUNDS MUCH MORE REFINED!
IDIOT. IT'S THE SAME THING.
YOU GIANT PERVERT!
EEEK!!
BUT... BUT I JUST DON'T LIKE BOYS.
TH-THEY'RE FILTHY.
AND SCARY...
HOW RUDE! LOOK AT ME!!
LOOK HOW BEAUTIFUL AND CUTE I AM!!
POINT
AND FILLED WITH CONFIDENCE...
AND YOU DON'T LIKE MEN, HUH?
I BET YOU DEVELOPED YOUNG, AND WITH THE WAY YOUR CHEST AND YOUR HEIGHT ARE...
THE BOYS PROBABLY TEASED YOU, CALLING YOU MT. FUJI, OR A 1:1 SCALE GUNDAM, RIGHT?
FEH!
WELL WHAT ELSE COULD I DO?! THE THINGS WE EXPERIENCE IN CHILDHOOD REMAIN IN OUR MINDS! I WAS TRAUMATIZED!
IT'S LIKE WHEN KIDS STEAL THE TOP PART OF YOUR RECORDER, OR YOUR GYM SHORTS!
Right on the mark, wasn't I?
WAAAHHH
YOU POOR THING.
I DON'T NEED YOUR SYMPATHY...
WHAM
FLAIL
FLAIL
WHAM

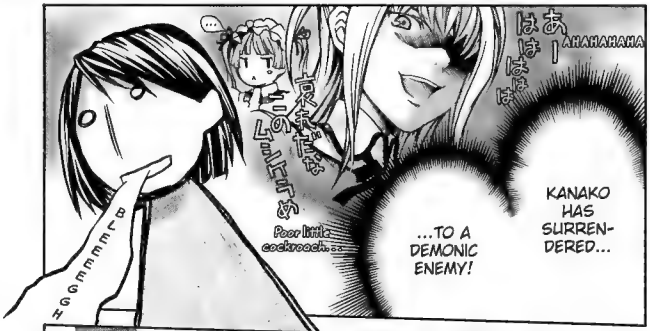
ANY-WAY!
ENOUGH ABOUT MY PERSONAL TASTES.
A BOY IN DRAG AT AN ALL-GIRLS' SCHOOL IS A MUCH BIGGER PROBLEM!
...SO?
SLURP
HUH?
SO, WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO ABOUT IT?
RAT ME OUT AND GET ME EXPELLED?
KLAT
SHFF...
UH... OF COURSE...
?
GRAB
WELL.
IN THAT CASE, I SUPPOSE I HAVE NO CHOICE.
ビリビリビリビリ
?!
SHRRIIIP

WHAT IS THAT PERVERT DOING?!
DRIP
DRIP DRIP
WH...
WHAT AN ADORABLE BRASSIERE...
SWITCH YOUR VOICE AND YOUR THOUGHTS BACK AROUND.
AND WIPE YOUR NOSE.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
HUH...?
UMM... ERR...
UHH...
TOSS
LISTEN UP, MATSURIKA.
THIS IS A DESERTED WOODLAND PATH.
THE SETTING IS THAT YOU'RE A POOR, HELPLESS VICTIM WHO'S BEEN ATTACKED BY A STRANGE PERVERT.
Setting...?
WE'RE ROLEPLAYING NOW? WHATEVER, SHITHEAD.
PLEASE IGNORE THAT VERBAL ABUSE, KANAKO.
YOU'RE THE HORRIBLE, VIOLENT CRIMINAL WHO TRIED TO HAVE HER WAY WITH MY MAID.
SIGH...
HUH?
KYAAAAAAH! HEEEEEELP!!
FLAPPA FLAPPA FLAPPA

ニヤ!!
SMIRK
POOR KANAKO-SAN.
GETTING EXPELLED ON YOUR FIRST DAY AT A NEW SCHOOL IS AWFULLY BITTERSWEET
WHY'D YOU JUST SHOUT LIKE THAT?!
NOW THAT PEOPLE HAVE HEARD A SCREAM, IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE SOMEONE COMES RUNNING.
WHAT?
Yeah!
SHE'S ALREADY GOTTEN INTO CHARACTER!
POOR THING. DRY YOUR TEARS...
I SAID NO, AND EVERY-THING!
What?!
WHY AM I BEING EXPELLED?
KANAKO-SAMA...
WELL, ONCE WE REVEAL THAT YOU'RE ACTUALLY A GUY...
ENOUGH ALREADY!
WHO WOULD BELIEVE SUCH A RIDICULOUS STORY?!
Noooo moooore

IT'S THE WORD OF A STRANGE TRANSFER STUDENT AGAINST MARIYA-SAMA, THE GRANDCHILD OF THE FORMER CHAIRWOMAN...
WHO DO YOU THINK EVERYONE WILL BELIEVE?
WELL, WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE? ARE YOU GOING TO GRACEFULLY ACCEPT YOUR DEBUT AS A CRIMINAL...
...OR...?
OOH, I THINK I HEAR FOOTSTEPS.
...
ONE OF THE SISTERS MUST HAVE BEEN SURPRISED AND SPRANG INTO ACTION.
WHEN SHE SEES THIS HORRIBLE SPECTACLE, SHE'LL PROBABLY FAINT.

EXHUASTED
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN, I HASTEN TO INFORM YOU...
PLEASE SCOLD ME.
Dinner will be at seven!
OH!
WELCOME BACK, MIYAMAE-SAN.
PUFF!


AHAHAHAHA
KANAKO HAS SURRENDERED...
...TO A DEMONIC ENEMY!
Poor little cockroach...
HGGMMMMMM

THAT'S RIGHT! MY SCHOOL LIFE STARTS TOMORROW..
RYUKEN-SAMA, IT'S KANAKO!
MY FUTURE IS STILL BRIGHT!!
I JUST GOT BACK...
※イメージ映像をお送りしています。
We'll transmit this bit to you through a helpful visualization.
HAHA HA HA HA
My angel!
NO! NO! YOU CAN'T LET YOURSELF GET DOWN, KANAKO!
REMEMBER! ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM, AND THE ELEGANT RYUKEN-SAMA AWAITS!

WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG, YURI GIRL?
WHAM

Whaaat?
DID YOU RUN OFF SOMEWHERE TO SULK?
HMM?
WH-WHY ARE YOU HERE?
WHERE'S RYUKEN-SAMA?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
WHAT'S WITH THE RICH-BRAT FURNITURE?
AND HEY, YOU'RE STILL A MINOR! WHAT ARE YOU DRINKING?!
Bordeaux
It's Red...
TOMATO JUICE.
LIAR! I DON'T BELIEVE THAT FOR A SECOND.
SLIP...
ARRRRGH!
THERE'S SO MUCH WRONG HERE, I FEEL LIKE IF I POINT ANYTHING OUT, I'LL LOSE!!
UMMM, ERRR, AND...
ARRRRGH!
ARRRRGH!

EVEN IF I DO MAKE YOU SWEAR TO SECRECY, A DUMBASS LIKE YOU WILL STILL SPILL THE BEANS THE FIRST CHANCE SHE GETS.
I DON'T TRUST YOU.
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
WAAH, WAAH..
MY NERVES!
Stoop!
GROIK
SHPP
WHAT? WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
HUH?
YEEK!!
POKE
NO MATTER HOW HUMILIATING MY GUISE MAY BE...
...I CAN'T LET MYSELF GET KICKED OUT OF THIS SCHOOL YET.
IT WAS "DUMB."
YEAH, I MEAN DUMB!!
SLAP
RAWR
I-I WON'T TELL ANYONE!
AND MY ASS ISN'T NUMB!
I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU OUT OF MY SIGHT FOR EVEN A MOMENT! 24/7!
THEREFORE I AM GOING TO PLACE YOU UNDER MY SUPERVISION.

I AM NOT CONFIDENT IN MY ABILITY TO OVERCOME IT.
A TRIAL.
IT WAS AN OBSTACLE.
WHAT I ENDED UP MEETING WASN'T MY SOUL MATE AT ALL.
I HOPE WE BECOME GOOD FRIENDS, KANAKO-SAN.
And that's that!
BEAM
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN, I HASTEN TO INFORM YOU...
GULP...
...
...MERCY...
P-PLEASE HAVE...
...BECOME FRIENDS WITH SOMEONE LIKE HIM!
LIKE I COULD EVER...

I feel like someone's watching me...

MARIA HOLIC

DRIP
ポタ
ポタ
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP...
ポタポタ...
YES.
VERY
GOOD.
DOES IT LOOK GOOD ON ME?
I TRIED ON MY HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM.
PLEASE LOOK AT ME, KANAKO-SAN!

IF ONLY YOU WEREN'T A MAN!
HAHA
I SUPPOSE THAT WAS A SILLY QUESTION.
THERE ISN'T AN ARTICLE OF CLOTHING THAT WOULDN'T FLATTER A FASHION LEADER LIKE SHIDOU MARIYA-SAMA!
TO THE REST OF THE WORLD, YOU JUST LOOK LIKE A DRAG QUEEN.
Prayer02
The Tale of the First Change of Clothes

DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN, I HASTEN TO INFORM YOU...
...THAT DESPITE ALL THE HICCUPS, THE MORNING OF MY FIRST DAY AT MY NEW SCHOOL HAS OFFICIALLY ARRIVED.
SO, UH, SHIDOU-SAN...
AME NO KISAKI GIRLS' DORM: NUMBER TWO
I'D LIKE TO CHANGE INTO MY UNIFORM TOO, SO WOULD YOU MIND STEPPING OUT FOR A SECOND?
TWITCH
IN YOUR DREAMS, BITCH.
CURRENTLY, THE BASE FORM OF THIS INCARNATION OF BEAUTY KNOWN AS MARIYA-SAMA IS THAT OF A LOVELY YOUNG MAIDEN!
WHY WOULD SOMEONE LIKE THAT HAVE TO BE THROWN OUT INTO THE HALLWAY EVERY TIME HER ROOMMATE GETS DRESSED?
THAT ALL MAY BE SO, BUT THERE'S NO WAY I CAN TAKE MY CLOTHES OFF IN FRONT OF A GUY.
Eww...!!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, KANAKO-SAN?
WHY WOULD A BOY BE ANYWHERE WITHIN THIS GIRLS' DORM?
Scary...
YOU GODDAMN LIAR!!
CLENCH
I'M NOT A MONSTER, THOUGH.
IF YOU PRESS YOUR HEAD AGAINST THE FLOOR AND MAKE YOUR PLEA TO ME, I MAY BE WILLING TO LISTEN TO YOU.

WHOA, WHOA, WHOA. HOLD ON. THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING TO DO THAT.
WE'RE ROOMMATES, SO WE'RE EQUALS, AREN'T WE?
NO. I'M A GRADE HIGHER THAN YOU, REMEMBER?
HUH?!
I SEE YOU'RE ACTING AS INSANE AS USUAL TODAY, MARIYA-SAMA.
THANK YOU, MATSURIKA.
I'M GOING TO MURDER YOU LATER.

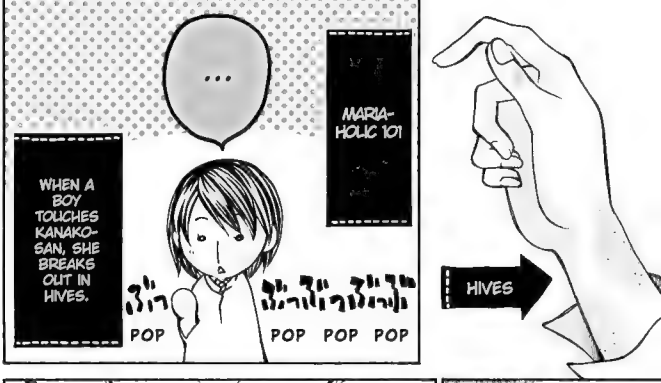
WHAT SHE SAYS IS SO ABSURD THAT I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO COUNTER IT!
No... No...
I'm not going to give up here!
IN THAT CASE, LET ME SAY JUST ONE THING.
I'VE GOT SOME INCRIMINATING INFORMATION ABOUT YOU...
EQUALS?
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH, YOU FILTHY PEASANT!
DON'T TALK TO ME AGAIN UNTIL YOU'RE MAKING 10 MILLION YEN A YEAR, YOU LITTLE SHIT!

SURE, KANAKO-SAN.
SAY WHATEVER YOU LIKE.
HE'S JUST SO CUTE! I CAN'T BEAT HIM!
ER... NE...
HEH? HEH...
NEVER MIND.
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS, KANAKO-SAN?
...
A TRIUMPHANT SMILE.
WELL? ARE YOU GOING TO GROVEL OR NOT?!
UGH.
YOU'RE STILL GOING ON ABOUT THAT?
GRAH
BREAKFAST AT GIRLS' DORM #2 BEGINS AT 7:30 SHARP.
STUDENTS WHO ARE LATE TO PRAYER BEFORE BREAKFAST DON'T GET ANY!
WE'RE RUNNING DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO THE TIME LIMIT.

WHAT AM I DOING?
MY BLOUSE IS ALL WRINKLED NOW...
AND IT'S BRAND NEW!
WAAHHH!! MY BUTTONS!! DID I MESS UP THE ORDER?!
FINE, WHATEVER! I'LL JUST CHANGE MY CLOTHES UNDER THE COVERS!!
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT SOONER?
LEAP
AW. BORING.

...'M NOT CRYING!
I'LL LEAVE NOW, SO YOU MAY CHANGE AT YOUR LEISURE.
SORRY. LOOKS LIKE I GOT A LITTLE CARRIED AWAY.
I FINALLY GOT INTO THE SCHOOL I'D ALWAYS DREAMED OF, AND NOW LOOK AT ME.
ARE YOU CRYING, KANAKO-SAN?
SNIFF...
STROKE

SORRY.
11°
PA-TAK
HE'S GONE.
DID HE REALLY LEAVE?
SORRY.
WHA...
WHAT WAS THAT?! WHY DID HE CARESS ME AND SPEAK SO GENTLY?!
BLUSH
BLUSH
BLUSH


MARIA-HOLIC 101
...
WHEN A BOY TOUCHES KANAKO-SAN, SHE BREAKS OUT IN HIVES.
POP
POP POP POP
HIVES

YOU DID THAT ON PURPOSE, DIDN'T YOU, MARIYA-SAMA?
I HAVEN'T THE FOGGIEST IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, MATSURIKA.
OH, GOOD MORNING!
GOOD MORNING.

WAAAHH! LOOK AT MY BODY!
NOOOO!! STOP ERUPTING
AME NO KISUKI GIRLS' DORM #2

KAWAKO-SAN IS EXCITED ABOUT HAVING SUCH A CUTE TEACHER.

MARIA HOLIC

2-A
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE TRANSFER STUDENT?
Hey! Hey!
DID YOU SEE HER FACE? IS SHE PRETTY?
WE'VE GOT ONE COMING HERE?
THAT'S UNUSUAL.
EW! WHY DO YOU CARE?
DON'T TELL ME YOU SWING THAT WAY!
ぽたん
SMACK
STOMP STOMP STOMP
WE BETTER HURRY UP AND GET TO OUR SEATS.
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
OH, PLEASE.
BUT WOULDN'T YOU BE HAPPIER IF WE GOT A CUTE ONE, THOUGH?
OOPS! TEDDYBEAR-SENSEI'S HERE.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
Ah ha ha...

Prayer03
The Tale of the First Day of School Part ①

職員室
TEACHERS' OFFICE
PARDON THE INTRUSION.
I BROUGHT MIYAMAE-SAN, THE NEW TRANSFER STUDENT.
CREAK...
THANK YOU SO MUCH, SHIDOU-SAN!
SO, YOU'RE MIYAMAE-SENSEI'S DAUGHTER, ARE YOU?
Y-YES! NICE TO MEET YOU.
I'M MIYAMAE KANAKO.
WOW...
SHE'S YOUNG!
AND CUTE!
NICE TO MEET YOU TOO.
I'M KUMAGAI FUMI, YOUR HOMEROOM TEACHER.
My nickname is Teddybear-sensei.
WE'RE AN ESCALATOR-STYLE MISSION SCHOOL, SO IT'S VERY RARE FOR US TO GET A TRANSFER STUDENT.
THEREFORE, YOU MIGHT ATTRACT SOME UNWANTED ATTENTION.
IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS, FEEL FREE TO TALK TO ME.
SENSEI...
ビーム... SHEEEN.

I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A PROBLEM RIGHT NOW!!
THEN HE INSISTED ON SUPERVISING ME, AND EVEN BULLIED HIS WAY INTO MY DORM...
ON TOP OF THAT, HE FOUND OUT THAT I'M NOT INTERESTED IN GUYS.
AS SOON I GOT HERE, I FOUND OUT THAT THIS PERSON IS ACTUALLY A BOY.
I'M IN A HUGE CRISIS HERE! A CRISIS OF CHASTITY!!
The heart of a young maiden, who can't bring herself to say "lesbian."
正直に百合と言えない乙女心☆
BUT HIS FACE IS JUST SO CUTE!
I'm such...
...an idiot!!
OH, NO.
I THINK I'M FINE FOR NOW...
AAHH... I KNOW I'M BEING TRICKED HERE, BUT...
HORON
IS SOMETHING WRONG, KANAKO-SAN?
SHE'S...
...THINKING ABOUT BORING STUFF AGAIN.

IF YOU SAY ANYTHING, I'LL FUCKING DESTROY YOU.
ボソ…
WHISPER…
ALL RIGHT, THEN. YOU CAN GO BACK TO CLASS NOW, SHIDOU-SAN.
OKAY!
HANG IN THERE, KANAKO-SAN!
NOW THEN, PLEASE EXCUSE ME.
ペコ
BOW
SENSEI!!
I WANT TO GET YOUR HELP..
BUT I CAN'T!!
だらだら
DRENCHED
ぼたぼた
WITH SWEAT
WELL THEN, LET'S GO.
I'LL SHOW YOU WHERE THE CLASS-ROOM IS.
I HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING!
NOTHING!
?
ヒィ!!
EEEP!
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER, IKUMAE-SAN?
ビク
JOLT

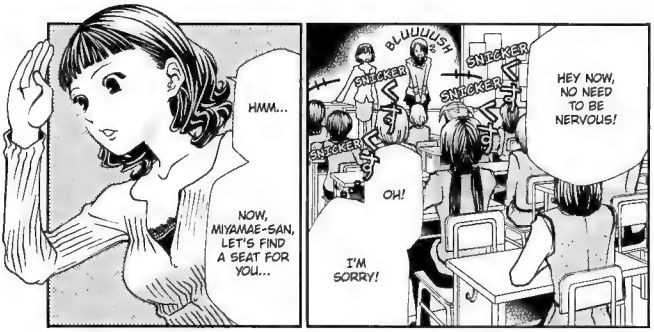
HUH?
YOU MEAN YOU KNEW MY MOTHER, SENSEI?!
SHE KEPT AN EYE ON ME WHEN I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
The sixth graders look after the first graders...
BUT SHE GOT MARRIED INSTEAD OF GOING TO HIGH SCHOOL, SO I WAS PRETTY LONELY WITHOUT HER AFTER THAT.

I WAS ALSO ONE OF YOUR FATHER'S STUDENTS.
I MET YOU WHEN YOU WERE A LITTLE GIRL. DO YOU REMEMBER?
YOU CAME HERE TO PLAY ONCE, KANA-CHAN.
WHAP
HEY!!
MUTTER MUTTER...
LET'S SEE HERE... MY MOTHER GOT MARRIED WHEN SHE WAS SIXTEEN...
THEN SHE GAVE BIRTH TO MY OLDER SISTER ONE YEAR LATER...
I SUPPOSE THERE'S A POSSIBILITY THAT SHE'S JUST BARELY IN HER 20S...
OWWW!
HUH?!
WHAT?! NO, NEVER!
YOU WERE CALCULATING MY AGE JUST NOW, WEREN'T YOU?

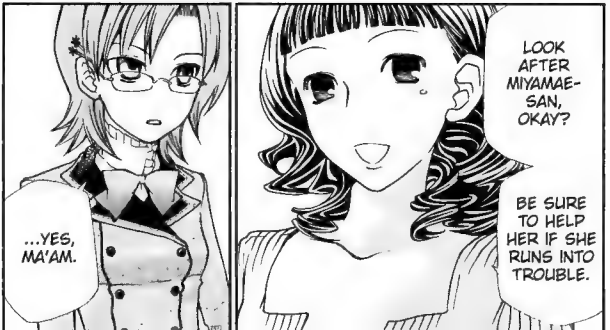
S-SORRY.
AH HA HA
I SUPPOSE YOU WOULDN'T.
I don't remember that!
really?
...at all.
YOU WERE REALLY TINY THEN.
UM... ER... SENSEI...
IF YOU DON'T MIND, COULD YOU TELL ME ABOUT MY MOTHER SOMETIME?
SHE DIED WHEN I WAS PRETTY LITTLE, SO I DON'T HAVE MANY MEMORIES OF HER.
RATTLE
SURE. ASK ME WHENEVER YOU LIKE.
RATTLE
GREAT! THANKS SO MUCH.
NOW... GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE.
DID YOU ALL ENJOY SPRING BREAK?

ERK!
WAAAH! THEY'RE LOOKING AT ME!
OUR CLASS IS GETTING A TRANSFER STUDENT THIS YEAR.
NOW, PERHAPS SOME OF YOU ALREADY KNOW ABOUT THIS, BUT...
I'M KUMAGAI FUMI, THE HOMEROOM TEACHER FOR YOU FIRST-YEARS.
そりゃそーだ
Well, of course they are...
SHE'S TALL!
...
AAAHH! THEY SAID I'M BIG!
ALTHOUGH YOU ALREADY MET ME LAST YEAR IN SOCIAL STUDIES, SO I SUPPOSE I DON'T NEED TO DO A SELF-INTRODUCTION, DO I?

WHAT SHOULD I DO? I'M GETTING NERVOUS NOW!!
MY...
MY NAME IS MIYAMAE KANAKO.
N-N-N-NICE TO MEET-CHOO!
DISASTER


HMM...
NOW, MIYAMAE-SAN, LET'S FIND A SEAT FOR YOU...
BLUUUUSH
SNICKER
SNICKER
SNICKER
SNICKER
OH!
I'M SORRY!
HEY NOW, NO NEED TO BE NERVOUS!

THE ONE NEXT TO KIRI-SAN IS OPEN.
LET'S PUT YOU THERE FOR NOW.


...YES, MA'AM.
LOOK AFTER MIYAMAE-SAN, OKAY?
BE SURE TO HELP HER IF SHE RUNS INTO TROUBLE.

OOOH!
SWEET! CUTE GLASSES!
NUH...
NICE TO MEET YOU. I'M MIYAMAE.
...I'M KIRI NANAMI.
SO THAT'S WHY I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU BEFORE. YOU'RE NEW HERE, HM?
I'M INAMORI YUZURU.
IT'S VERY NICE TO MEET YOU.
THE BEAUTIFUL GIRL I MET AT THE TRAINING HALL YESTERDAY!!
THE...
SHE SMILED!!
SHE'S SO CUTE!! SO CUTE!!
THE PLEASURE'S ALL MINE!
AW, YUZURU-CHAN, THAT'S NOT FAIR.
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO GET A HEAD-START ON EVERYONE ELSE!

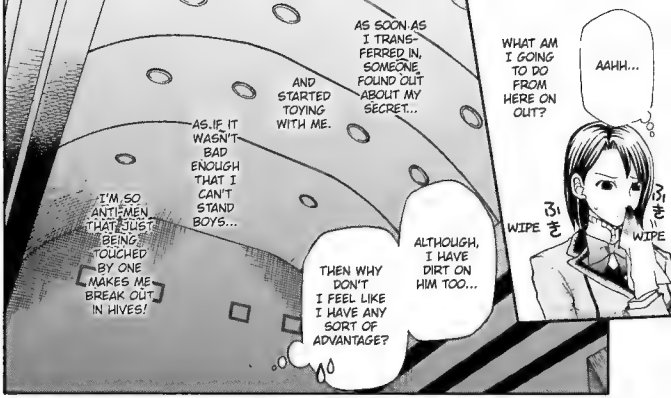
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN...
IS THIS WHAT THE DATING SIMS CALL THE "HAREM FLAG"?
An ocean of blood.
鼻血の海。
TWITCH
TWITCH TWITCH
MEW!
I'M MOMOI SACHI.
I HOPE WE CAN BECOME GOOD FRIENDS TOO, KANAKO-CHAN.
POOF!
GOOD... (ECHO)
GOOD FRIENDS... GOOD FRIENDS... GOOD FRIENDS...
SWOON...
NOW, LET'S ALL MOVE TO THE EVENT HALL.
IT'S TIME TO WELCOME IN THE NEW FIRST-YEARS.
That doesn't count!!
BUT I AM.
My archery uniform
HEY NOW! IT'S STILL HOMEROOM.
I WANT YOU ALL TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER, BUT IT'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL LATER.
ALSO, INAMORI-SAN, YOU NEED TO WEAR YOUR SCHOOL UNIFORM.

AND THUS... WAIT...
ERGH.
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN, I HASTEN TO ASK YOU...
ON THIS FINE DAY, WITH ITS REFRESHING SPRING BREEZE AND SOFT SUNLIGHT...
I AM SO OVERJOYED THAT WE HAVE SO MANY NEW FIRST-YEARS WHO HAVE GRADUATED INTO THE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM AT THE LONG-ESTABLISHED AME NO KISAKI WOMEN'S ACADEMY.
...like it's completely normal.
And Matsurika-san's standing behind him...
うそに茉莉花さんが...
しかも当然のように
WHY THE HELL IS HE THE ONE WHO'S MAKING SPEECHES AT THE OPENING CEREMONIES?

Prayer04
The Tale of the First Day
of School Part ②

ON THIS FINE DAY, WITH ITS REFRESHING SPRING BREEZE AND SOFT SUNLIGHT...
I AM SO OVERJOYED THAT WE HAVE SO MANY NEW FIRST-YEARS WHO HAVE MATRICULATED INTO THE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM AT THE LONG-ESTABLISHED AME NO KISAKI WOMEN'S ACADEMY.
IN THIS BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENT, SURROUNDED BY GREENERY, IN THIS BRAND-NEW SCHOOLHOUSE...
WHILE WE RECEIVE GUIDANCE FROM OUR HONORED UPPERCLASS-WOMEN...
WE WILL SPEND THREE YEARS HERE.
AAHH... WHO THE HELL ELECTED THAT JERK AS CLASS REPRESENTATIVE?!
LOOK AT HIM, LINING UP THOSE FALSE WORDS ONE AFTER ANOTHER.
HE'S A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING.

SHIDOU-SAMA DID GET SELECTED TO GIVE THE SPEECH!
WHISPER WHISPER
OF COURSE SHE DID!
SHE WAS ALREADY FAMOUS AS THE BEAUTIFUL STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL..
SHE'S ALSO THE PRESIDENT OF THE ARCHERY CLUB.
SHE'S A MASTER OF BOTH THE PEN AND THE SWORD, BOTH TALENTED AND BEAUTIFUL... I ADMIRE HER EVEN THOUGH SHE'S MY JUNIOR!
IT'S ALL A SHAM!!
EVERYONE'S BEEN COMPLETELY TAKEN IN!
はわわわわわ AAAHHH
HE'S A MAN, FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!!
STILL...
Ah 20 20/20 Vision
HAH. LOOK AT HER DUMB FACE
SHE LOOKED THIS WAY!
SHE WAVED AT ME!!
It's kind of looking like she's twisting on Me!!
BUT HIS FACE REALLY IS TOP QUALITY!!
KUNIKO-CHAN! YOUR NOSE IS BLEEDING!

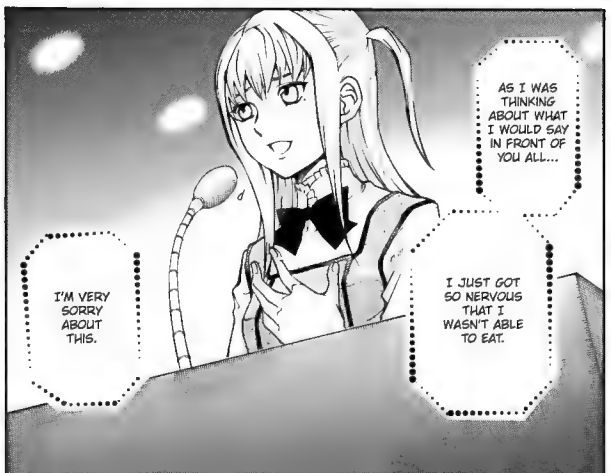

AAHH...
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO FROM HERE ON OUT?
WIPE
WIPE
AS SOON AS I TRANSFERRED IN, SOMEONE FOUND OUT ABOUT MY SECRET...
AND STARTED TOYING WITH ME.
AS IF IT WASN'T BAD ENOUGH THAT I CAN'T STAND BOYS...
I'M SO ANTI-MEN THAT JUST BEING TOUCHED BY ONE MAKES ME BREAK OUT IN HIVES!
THEN WHY DON'T I FEEL LIKE I HAVE ANY SORT OF ADVANTAGE?
ALTHOUGH, I HAVE DIRT ON HIM TOO...

GROWL?
SIIIIGH
GROWWWL
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN...
...YOUR KANAKO IS ON HER LAST LEGS.

GROWWWWWWWWL

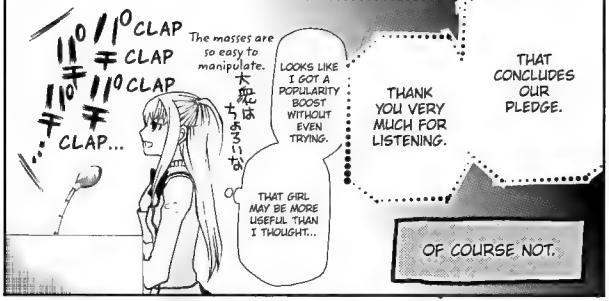
UMMM... WAS THAT MY STOMACH JUST NOW?
IT... WAS? IT WAS. WASN'T IT? IT WAS! AH. HA HA HA HA HA!
あーはは
B-BUT I CAN'T HELP IT!
AAAAH. HA HA HA
バカめ
アホめ
Stupid! Moron! Idiot!
I WASN'T ABLE TO EAT BREAKFAST THIS MORNING THANKS TO HIS PRANKS!
AND THAT'S NOT ALL!
I FELL ASLEEP SULKING LAST NIGHT, SO I MISSED DINNER AS WELL...
I HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING FOR A WHOLE DAY!

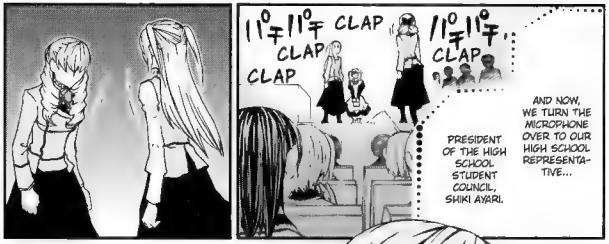
I BEG YOUR PARDON.
I SKIPPED BREAKFAST THIS MORNING, AND IT LOOKS LIKE THE LITTLE BUG IN MY STOMACH DECIDED TO VOICE ITS DISSATISFACTION.
Idiot...アホ
LOOK AT HER, FIRST GOING PALE, THEN TURNING RED...
I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE! I WANT TO TRANSFER TO A NEW SCHOOL RIGHT NOW!!
JEEZ...
うーわ
SHE'S BASICALLY SIGNALING TO THEM THAT IT WAS HER.
20/20 視力2.0 Eyesight
NO CHOICE, I GUESS...
TAP TAP きゅっ きゅっ
DID YOU JUST HEAR SOMETHING COME FROM THE SEAT IN FRONT OF US?
WHISPER
HUH? NO, DID YOU?
WHISPER
YEAH!
NOOOO...
THEY'VE STARTED LOOKING FOR THE CULPRIT...


AS I WAS THINKING ABOUT WHAT I WOULD SAY IN FRONT OF YOU ALL...
I JUST GOT SO NERVOUS THAT I WASN'T ABLE TO EAT.
I'M VERY SORRY ABOUT THIS.

ALTHOUGH...
I FEEL A LITTLE EMBARRASSED AFTER GETTING SO WORKED UP ABOUT FINDING OUT WHO DID IT.
WHISPER
WHISPER
WHISPER
IS SHE COVERING FOR SOMEONE ELSE?
DUH! IT'S SO OBVIOUS!
WHAT? I SWEAR I SAW SHIDOU-SAN IN THE CAFETERIA THIS MORNING.
WAAAAH! FORGIVE ME! FORGIVE MEEEE

BADUM
COULD IT BE...
...HE HELPED ME?
BADUM
HUH? WHAT IS THIS...?
SHIDOU-SAN IS SUCH A KIND PERSON.
EVERYONE'S STOMACH GROWLS WHEN IT'S EMPTY.
TRUE.

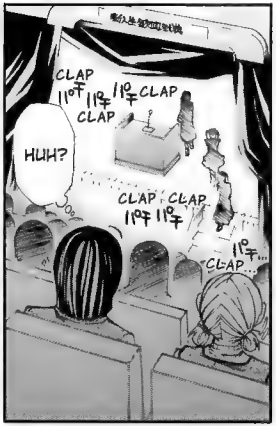

CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP...
The masses are so easy to manipulate.
大衆はちょろいな
LOOKS LIKE I GOT A POPULARITY BOOST WITHOUT EVEN TRYING.
THAT GIRL MAY BE MORE USEFUL THAN I THOUGHT...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR LISTENING.
THAT CONCLUDES OUR PLEDGE.
OF COURSE NOT.


CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
PRESIDENT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL, SHIKI AYARI.
AND NOW, WE TURN THE MICROPHONE OVER TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE...

THAT WAS A MAGNIFICENT SPEECH, A-CUP.
HOW KIND OF YOU TO SAY SO, FATASS.

ニコリ
GRIN
ニコ
GRIN

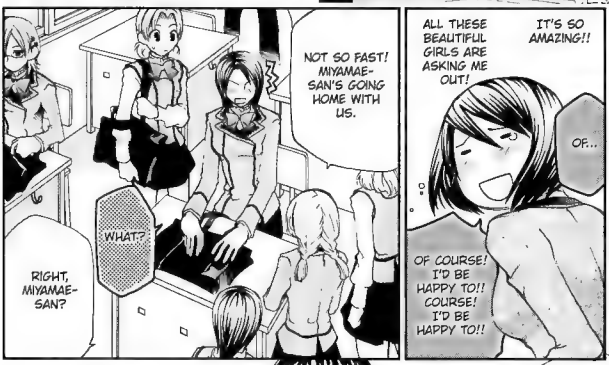
ALL OF US REACH OUT TO YOU WITH OPEN ARMS.
ATTENTION ALL NEW STUDENTS! I EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL.
LOOKS LIKE THEY DON'T GET along.
視力 2.5
25/25 Vision
ふんふん…


CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
HUH?
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP…

HUH?
YOU MAY BE ENTERING A NEW SCHOOL NOW...
BUT OUR SCHOOLHOUSE IS RIGHT NEXT DOOR TO YOUR OLD ONE, SO WE'VE BEEN FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU FOR SOME TIME NOW.
DURIAN DEW
WE KNOW IT'S VERY DIFFICULT TO SWITCH OUT YOUR OLD FEELINGS FOR NEW ONES AND BEGIN A NEW LIFESTYLE.
BUT... ... ...
... ...
... ...
SSSHH
IT'S A SECRET!
THANK YOU!
MUNCH!
MUNCH!
MUNCH!
にゃぱ～
MEW POOF
... ...
You're welcome

I THINK THAT YOUR KANAKO...
...MAY BE ABLE TO SURVIVE AT THIS SCHOOL AFTER ALL.
I PRAY THAT YOU WILL ALL EXPERIENCE GREAT HAPPINESS...
...ON YOUR JOURNEYS THROUGH LIFE.
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN...
TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOU.
MANY DIFFICULTIES LIE AHEAD OF ME.
BESIDE YOU...
IN FRONT OF YOU...
BEHIND YOU...
THESE ARE YOUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES, WHO WILL SHARE THE JOYS AND TROUBLES YOU EXPERIENCE OVER THESE NEXT FEW YEARS.
SOME OF THEM WILL SUPPORT YOU THROUGHOUT YOUR LIFE...
...WHILE OTHERS ARE FRIENDS WHO YOU WILL COME TO SUPPORT.
BUT SO DOES SALVATION.

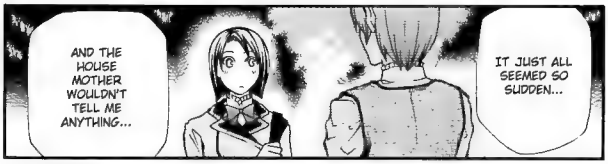
KANAKO-CHAN!
BOOONG...
BIIING
WHERE ARE YOU OFF TO NOW? WOULD YOU LIKE TO EAT LUNCH WITH US IN THE CAFETERIA?
THE FOOD HERE IS REALLY YUMMY!
WE HAVE FIVE DIFFERENT FLAVORS OF PUDDING, TOO!
Plain, maple, green tea, chocolate and seasonal fruit. In the spring it's strawberry.

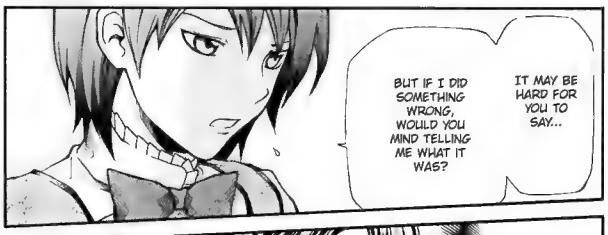

IT'S SO AMAZING!!
ALL THESE BEAUTIFUL GIRLS ARE ASKING ME OUT!
OF...
OF COURSE! I'D BE HAPPY TO!! COURSE! I'D BE HAPPY TO!!
NOT SO FAST! MIYAMAE-SAN'S GOING HOME WITH US.
WHAT?
RIGHT, MIYAMAE-SAN?

KANAKO-KUN!!
WE'RE IN THE DRAMA CLUB.
HEY, SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO FOR CLUB ACTIVITIES?

RYUKEN... SAMA?
PHEW...
I FINALLY FOUND HER...
SORRY TO DRAG YOU OUT TO A PLACE LIKE THIS.
I JUST THOUGHT IT WAS SOMETHING YOU'D PREFER TO DISCUSS IN PRIVATE.
HM?
OH, IT'S NOTHING, REALLY.
YESTERDAY, I WAS KICKED OUT OF MY ROOM AND ASKED TO FIND ANOTHER ALL OF A SUDDEN...
SO I JUST WONDERED HOW YOU WERE FARING AFTER THAT.

AND YOU DIDN'T COME TO BREAKFAST, SO I NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO TALK TO YOU.
IT'S NOT THAT I DIDN'T GO! HE WOULDN'T LET ME GO!
YIKES! I MUST HAVE CAUSED HER A LOT OF TROUBLE!
I TRIED TO GO AND SEE YOU, BUT THE AREA AROUND THE ROOM WAS ALL ROPED OFF.
KEEP OUT
DEATH

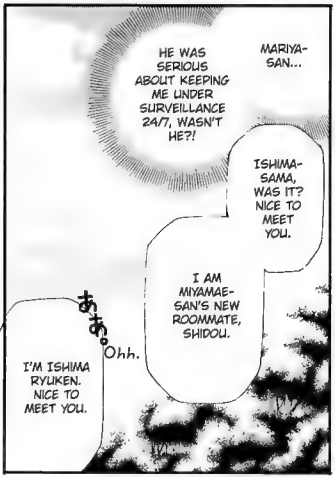

AND THE HOUSE MOTHER WOULDN'T TELL ME ANYTHING...
IT JUST ALL SEEMED SO SUDDEN...


BUT IF I DID SOMETHING WRONG, WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME WHAT IT WAS?
IT MAY BE HARD FOR YOU TO SAY...

N-NO, THAT'S...
WRONG.
RYUKEN-SAMA THINKS THAT SHE'S THE ONE AT FAULT HERE?!

YOU DID PROMISE ME YOU'D ACCOMPANY ME HOME, AFTER ALL.
I'M GLAD I FOUND YOU.
I NEVER PROMISED ANYTHING OF THE SORT!
ONONO
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU, KANAKO-SAN.

HUH?
DO YOU UNDERSTAND JUST HOW MUCH THE STUDENTS AT AME NO KISAKI ADMIRE YOU?
BACK TO WHAT YOU WERE SAYING, ISHIMA-SAMA...


HE WAS SERIOUS ABOUT KEEPING ME UNDER SURVEILLANCE 24/7, WASN'T HE?!
MARIYA-SAN...
ISHIMA-SAMA, WAS IT? NICE TO MEET YOU.
I AM MIYAMAE-SAN'S NEW ROOMMATE, SHIDOU.
Ohh.
I'M ISHIMA RYUKEN. NICE TO MEET YOU.
YOU'RE THE MOST POPULAR MALE CHARACTER ACTRESS IN THE DRAMA CLUB.
IF SOME NO-NAME TRANSFER STUDENT WERE TO RECEIVE THE HONOR OF BECOMING THE ROOMMATE TO SUCH A CELEBRITY...
PLEASE, IMAGINE FOR YOURSELF WHAT THE OTHER STUDENTS WOULD THINK!

THERE ISN'T A PERSON IN SCHOOL WHO DOESN'T KNOW YOUR NAME, CORRECT?
YOU'RE THE GRANDDAUGHTER OF THE FORMER CHAIRWOMAN, AND YOU WERE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
BLUSH
YOU'RE... EXAGGERATING!
AND BESIDES, YOU'RE POPULAR TOO.

I KNOW THIS MAY SOUND RUDE, BUT THESE ARE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF RECOGNITION THAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.
IT MAY SEEM HARD TO BELIEVE...
...BUT THERE ARE A GREAT NUMBER OF STUDENTS OUT THERE WHO WISH TO BE YOURS, ISHIMA-SAMA.

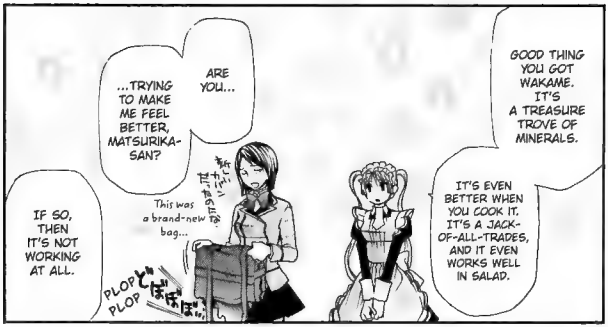
WH-WHAT ARE YOU IMPLYING?
I IMAGINE IT MUST HAVE BEEN VERY HARD FOR THEM.
DON'T TELL ME...
YOU COULD HAVE SPENT A LONG PERIOD WITH ONE ROOMMATE...
BUT INSTEAD, YOUR ROOMMATES KEPT RAPIDLY SWITCHING OUT, CORRECT?
...SO WHAT?
OH, COME ON. WHAT IS THIS, A BAD JOKE?
...YOU'VE LIVED IN THE DORM SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL, HAVEN'T YOU, ISHIMA-SAMA?

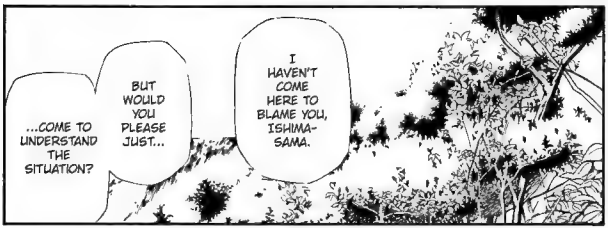
OH NO... I WANT TO SHOUT IT OUT SO BAD, BUT IF I DO IT RIGHT NOW, WILL WE GET MAD?
WHY IS IT ALL SEA-RELATED?!
OR GIRLS FROM THE DRAMA CLUB FINDING OUT THAT THEIR STAGE BLOOD HAD BEEN SWITCHED WITH SQUID INK...
GOING INTO THE CLASSROOM ONLY TO FIND A FROZEN TUNA IN THEIR SEATS...
FINDING LIVE OCTOPI IN THEIR SHOES...
AND THEN, SEEING A LONE FLOWER POKING UP OUT OF A BOILED FISH HEAD ON THEIR DESKS...
WHAT?!
HOW CRUEL!!

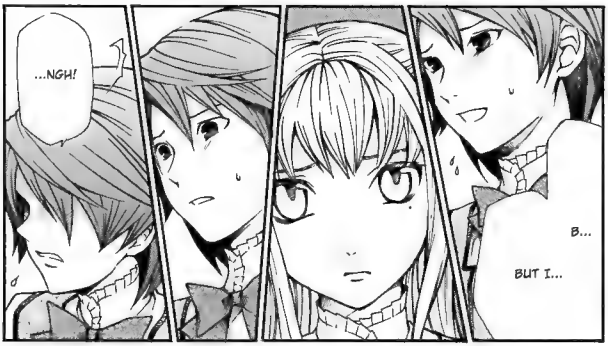
NOT FIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.
のろい。
GNURP
SEA HARE - MOLLUSCA. GASTROPODA. OPISTHOBRANCHIA. NUDIBRANCHIA.
DON'T TELL ME THAT THIS IS ALSO CONNECTED TO INCIDENT LAST YEAR WHEN KOGAWA-SAN, A GIRL WHO WAS IN THE SAME ROOM, FOUND THAT HER CELL PHONE HAD TURNED INTO A SEA HARE?!
AHH
INDEED!!
PWAAAN
PLEASE, FEAST YOUR EYES ON THE PROOF!!
HUH?

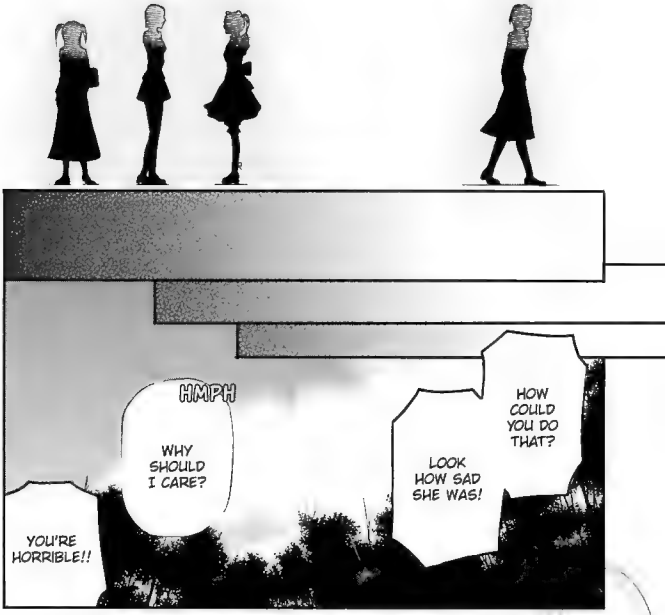
KA... KANAKO-KUN'S BAG!
RUSTLE
HUH?! WHAT? WHAT'S GOING ON?!
RUSTLE
YEEEK!
BWOOSH
アン!
LIHH...

IS...
IS THAT SEAWEED?!
DAN?
Covered in seaweed
YAAAY. WHAT A MISERABLE SIGHT.
YES, WAKAME, IN FACT.
WAKAME EXPANDS WHEN WET, SO SHE MUSTN'T HAVE NOTICED.


GOOD THING YOU GOT WAKAME. IT'S A TREASURE TROVE OF MINERALS.
IT'S EVEN BETTER WHEN YOU COOK IT. IT'S A JACK-OF-ALL-TRADES, AND IT EVEN WORKS WELL IN SALAD.
ARE YOU...
...TRYING TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER, MATSURIKA-SAN?
This was a brand-new bag...
PLOP PLOP
IF SO, THEN IT'S NOT WORKING AT ALL.


I HAVEN'T COME HERE TO BLAME YOU, ISHIMA-SAMA.
BUT WOULD YOU PLEASE JUST...
...COME TO UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION?


...NGH!
B...
BUT I...

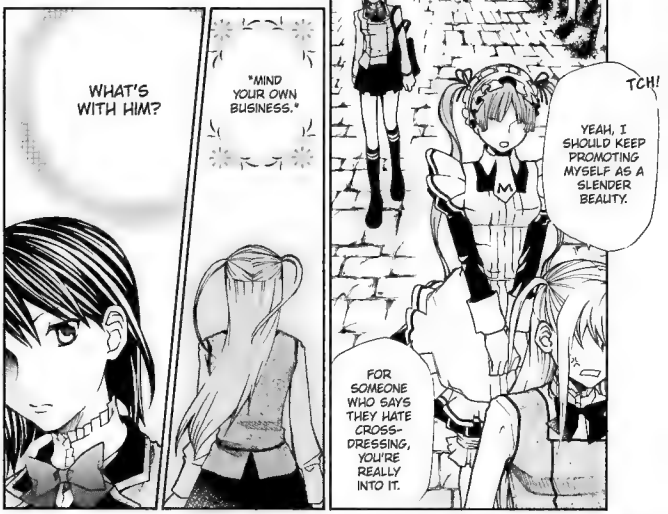

HMPH
WHY SHOULD I CARE?
YOU'RE HORRIBLE!!
HOW COULD YOU DO THAT?
LOOK HOW SAD SHE WAS!

AAH! THE TRUTH COMES OUT!
I'M WAY MORE BEAUTIFUL AND INTELLIGENT THAN HER!!
KEH
WHY IS SHE EVEN SO POPULAR? SHE ALWAYS SAYS SUCH LAME GARBAGE.
I'VE NEVER LIKED HER ANYWAY.
I NEVER MEANT TO CAUSE YOU TROUBLE.
I'M SORRY, KANAKO-KUN...

SO THIS IS JUST PETTY RESENTMENT, THEN?
YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS OF RYUKEN-SAMA BECAUSE SHE'S HIGHER ON THE POPULARITY LADDER THAN YOU, RIGHT?
SEEMED LIKE YOU WERE ON BAD TERMS WITH THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT AS WELL.
YOU GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF A PERSON WHO'S EVERYONE'S FRIEND, MARIYA. WHAT A SHOCK.
BY THE WAY, KANAKO-SAN...
...
IN
SP
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
HUH?!
HEY! WHAT IS IT?
WHAT...
KLAK
WH-WH...
KLAK
KLAK
GRIT
KLAK

GRAB
わ!!
しっ
YOU THINK THESE GLOBS OF FAT GIVE PEOPLE A RIGHT TO ACT ALL HIGH AND MIGHTY?!
GYAAAAAAHHH !!
ARE YOU, LIKE, CHILDHOOD FRIENDS?
おい!
Huh.
NO BOOBS FOR ME, THANKS! NO WAY.
SO YOU'VE KNOWN THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT SINCE YOU WERE LITTLE?
I had one that pretty!
HUH? WAIT...
THEN DOES SHE KNOW THAT YOU'RE ACTUALLY A GUY?
SHE WAS A BED-WETTER THROUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, TOO! HOW'S THAT FOR A STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT?!
THAT GODDAMN CHOCOLATE CORONET!! SHE THINKS THAT JUST BECAUSE SHE'S GOT THE TINIEST INKLING OF AN HOURGLASS FIGURE, SHE CAN WALTZ AROUND AND DO WHATEVER SHE WANTS!
MUAHAHAHAHA!
BEEP!
BEEP!
...the chocolate coronets.
These are...

MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.
ビクッ
FLINCH
NuBra
ヌウブラ☆
シリコンパッド付き感触
The silicone pads feel like real tits.
I DOUBT AN OVERNIGHT TWO-CUP INCREASE WILL FU...
ALL RIGHT!! WE'RE GOING TO PUT ON A DOUBLE-LAYERED NUBRA TOMORROW, MATSURIKA!
I'M GONNA WIPE THAT COCKY GRIN OFF HER FACE ONCE AND FOR ALL!
I'M SORRY! I APOLOGIZE, JUST DON'T TOUCH ME!
DON'T GET COCKY NOW, FATASS!!
AND IT'S MARIYA-SAN TO YOU, GOT IT?
I'll break out in hives again!!
TWITCH
TWITCH
TWITCH


TCH!
YEAH, I SHOULD KEEP PROMOTING MYSELF AS A SLENDER BEAUTY.
FOR SOMEONE WHO SAYS THEY HATE CROSS-DRESSING, YOU'RE REALLY INTO IT.
"MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS."
WHAT'S WITH HIM?
WELL, JUST SO YOU KNOW, I'M NOT EXACTLY DYING TO BECOME FRIENDS WITH YOU, EITHER.
I MEAN, I HATE MEN!
ONE TOUCH, AND IT'S HIVES FOR ME.

WHY DO I FEEL THIS PAIN IN MY CHEST?
SQUEEZE...
BUT IT'S STRANGE.
WHY...

WHAT'S WITH THAT MIYAMAE GIRL?
WHAT SORT OF A RELATIONSHIP DOES SHE HAVE WITH RYUKEN-SAMA?
SHE ACTS LIKE THEY'RE REALLY CLOSE...
EVEN THOUGH IT'S HER FIRST DAY HERE...
SOMEONE NEEDS TO PUT A STOP TO THIS...
...

KANAKO-SAN
LIKES GIRLS TOO.

MARIA HOLIC

Prayer05

The Tale of an Underdog Who Came Out on Top

HERE'S A PRESENT.
BUT THIS IS BRAND NEW. ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY?
NO NEED TO BE POLITE.
IT'S THE MADONNA OF THE ACADEMY'S DUTY TO ASSIST HER IGNORANT ROOMMATE.
THE WAY YOU CASUALLY INSULT ME LIKE THAT REALLY PISSES ME OFF, YOU KNOW?
BUT OH WELL. THANKS!
ZWIP
THUD..
I FIGURED YOU DIDN'T HAVE A SPARE, SO JUST USE THIS.
THE RYUKEN FAN CLUB'S PRANK PUT YOUR BAG OUT OF COMMISSION, RIGHT?
WHAT?
BWAAAAH

NOPE.
CAN I RETURN IT?
ZIIIIIP
THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR THINKING, "WOW, HE'S ACTUALLY KINDA NICE!"
WHAT KIND OF A BAG IS THIS? SOMETHING'S LIVING INSIDE IT!
HERE'S A HINT...
IT'S REALLY SLIMY!
GROSS!!
FWIP
SECOND YEAR MATH
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SO NOISY?
I'M WAY TOO SCARED TO PUT ANY OF MY BOOKS INSIDE OF IT!
I'M GIVING IT BACK!!
HA HA...
YOU CAN'T KEEP TAKING MARIYA-SAMA'S JOKES SERIOUSLY, KANAKO-SAN.
GUESS I CAN'T FOOL YOU, MATSURIKA.
YEAH. THE BAG'S EMPTY.
NOOO
THE BAG'S EMPTY.
PUGYAAAHH
AAAAHHH!!
SHOVE
YOU'RE TEAMING UP TO ENSNARE ME NOW?!

SI
LENCE...
ZIIIP
CAN'T FORGET TO PUT THIS ON...
DOESN'T TAKE LONG FOR YOU TO RECOVER.
OH WELL. I NEED TO HURRY UP AND GET READY TO GO TO SCHOOL, OR ELSE I'LL BE LATE.
R-REALLY?
I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING SHRIEK...
M... MATSUFUKA-SAN?
NO. I WAS JUST SAYING THE FIRST THING THAT CAME TO MIND, MAGGOT.
IT WAS JUST YOUR IMAGINATION.
NOT ONLY DID YOU LIE TO ME, NOW YOU'RE TREATING ME LIKE LARVA?
CLINK...
WHAT ARE YOU PUTTING AROUND YOUR NECK?
HUH?
I'M GOING TO A MISSION SCHOOL NOW, SO I THOUGHT I'D BRING IT OUT.
IT WAS GIVEN TO ME AS A PRESENT WHEN I WAS LITTLE.
MY PRIZED POSSESSION. ISN'T IT PRETTY?

...WHY ON EARTH DID YOU COME TO A MISSION SCHOOL?
AND TEDDYBEAR-SENSEI IS GOING TO TEACH ME HOW TO PRAY AFTER SCHOOL TODAY!
EVERY SATURDAY MORNING, WE HAVE PRAYER IN THE CATHEDRAL.
WHAAAT?!
BUT SENSEI TOLD ME TO BRING A ROSARY!
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH YOUR NECKLACE?
ACCESSORIES GO AGAINST THE DRESS CODE.
Uh...
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?
It looks the same.
A ROSARY IS A STRING OF BEADS DESIGNED TO HELP YOU COUNT YOUR PRAYERS.
WHAT YOU'RE HOLDING IS JUST A FASHION ACCESSORY.
DON'T ACT LIKE THEY'RE THE SAME.
THIS IS WHAT A ROSARY IS.
CLINK...
HUH? WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HA...
KLAT...

I-I'VE BEEN CALLING CROSSES ROSARIES FOR MY ENTIRE LIFE...
I... FEEL REALLY EMBARRASSED.
YEAH. YOU SHOULD BE.
DID YOU EVEN READ THE NEW STUDENT'S GUIDE?
THERE'S A ROSARY PRAYER GUIDE INSIDE.

ロザリオの祈り
ROSARY PRAYER
OH YEAH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
BUT...
BUT...

I WAS SO OVERJOYED AT BEING ABLE TO TRANSFER INTO A GARDEN OF BEAUTIFUL GIRLS, THAT I DIDN'T EVEN LOOK AT IT...
IS THAT REALLY SOMETHING TO BE LOOKING BACK UPON SO FONDLY?
BLUSH...
WHAT SHOULD I DO, THOUGH?
I MEAN, I DON'T HAVE A ROSARY.
THEY SELL THEM AT THE CO-OP.
NO... ROSARIES AREN'T SOMETHING YOU SHOULD CHOOSE HASTILY.
I'LL LEND YOU MINE.
ジャラ...
CLINK...
What?!
I COULDN'T BORROW SOMETHING THAT LOOKS SO EXPENSIVE!
IDIOT. WHO CARES ABOUT HOW EXPENSIVE IT WAS?

THE IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER ARE THAT THIS WAS A MEMENTO LEFT TO ME BY MY GRANDMOTHER, THE LATE CHAIRWOMAN...
AND THAT I LOVE AND RESPECT HER A GREAT DEAL.
MARIYA...
I BET IT'LL MAKE YOU REALLY NERVOUS TO HAVE SUCH A PRECIOUS ITEM PUT IN YOUR CARE. YOU'LL BE WALKING ON EGGSHELLS THE ENTIRE DAY.
THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO SEE.
HE'S DECLARING HIS DESIRE TO MESS WITH ME, RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME...
"WHAT IF I LOSE IT?" "I'LL HAVE TO PAY FOR IT IF I BREAK IT!"
RUB
RUB
YOU~!
YOU THINK I'D ACTUALLY TAKE IT AFTER HEARING ALL THAT?!
THAT'S RIGHT. ROSARIES AREN'T MADE TO BE WORN, SO THEY'RE PRETTY FRAGILE.
NOW TAKE IT!
NO! STOP! DON'T TOUCH ME, OR I'LL BREAK OUT IN HIVES!!
THINK OF IT AS A PIECE OF MY SOUL, AND TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT.

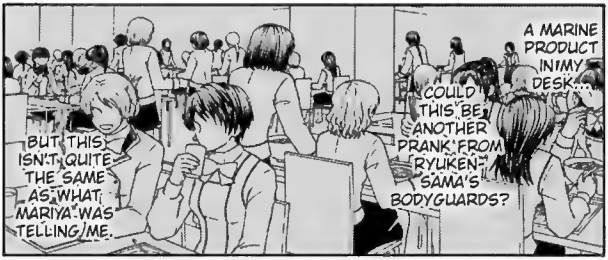
Ahh!
PLEASE WAIT!
SPLURT
OF COURSE!! IT'S SO CUTE I COULD JUST EAT IT RIGHT UP! I FEEL LIKE AN OLD WOMAN TAKING HER FIRST LOOK AT HER GRANDDAUGHTER!
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME!
YOU SAID YOU'D WALK TO SCHOOL WITH ME...
SLAM
The door is open, so he's acting cute.
YOU HEARD YURI GIRL SAY THAT, RIGHT?
WHAT'S WRONG, MATSURIKA?
WHY WOULD YOU GIVE SUCH A PRECIOUS THING TO HER?
THAT'S MY LINE.
THE SMARTEST, MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL IN SCHOOL WOULD GO OUT OF HER WAY TO HELP THE NEW TRANSFER STUDENT, WOULDN'T SHE?
I KNOW YOU'RE PROBABLY GETTING TIRED OF THE "BUT YOU'RE A GUY!" JOKE, SO... WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST GIVE HER YOUR SPARE ROSARY?
THAT ONE'S...

AS LONG AS YOU HAVE ENOUGH MONEY, YOU COULD EASILY BUY A REPLACEMENT.
IT'S JUST A THING. IT ISN'T PART OF GRANDMA.
IF THAT'S THE WAY IT IS, THEN I WON'T SAY ANY MORE, BUT...
...?
すっしー
THUD
...
AND BESIDES, I HAVE A LOT MORE MEMENTOS!
Just one fraction
ごく一部
WHAT? STILL GOT MORE COMPLAINTS?
CLINK
NO...
I JUST NOTICED SOMETHING ...
MARIYA-SAMA... YOUR CROSS REALLY LOOKS LIKE KANAKO-SAMA'S.
OH, SO THAT'S MARIYA-SAN'S ROSARY?
Yes!
I WANT TO KEEP IT SAFE INSIDE MY BAG, BUT I'M AFRAID IT'LL GET EATEN.

LOOK, KANAKO-CHAN!
THIS IS A ROSARY TOO.
THIS PRAYER IS REALLY COMPLICATED... WHAT SHOULD I DO? I DON'T GET IT...
Urk!
OH, SORRY. I WAS JUST TALKING TO MYSELF.
EATEN?
ガラララ...
RATTLE...
I'LL SHOW ONE TO YOU LATER.
THEY'RE LIKE MEMBER'S BADGES FOR THE VIRGIN MOTHER'S FAN CLUB.
MEDALS?' (WHAT KIND?)
BUT THE TEACHERS IGNORE SMALL CROSSES AND MEDALS.
TECHNI-CALLY, THEY ARE.
I THOUGHT ACCESSORIES GO AGAINST THE DRESS CODE.
THEY HAVE BRACELETS, TOO.
YOU USE THE DOTS AROUND THE RING TO COUNT YOUR PRAYERS.
THAT RING?
Isn't it cute?
GLOOP

K... KIRIKO-SAN...
IT'S OFTEN SERVED AS A SIDE DISH BETWEEN MEALS OR WITH ALCOHOL.
YOU MAKE IT BY MIXING A BROTH OF FISH OR CHICKEN WITH LOTS OF GELATIN, THEN COOLING AND HARDENING IT INTO A JELLY.
JELLIED FISH.
WHAT... IS THAT?
IT'S A DELICACY.
DING DOOOONG...
カラーン
コローン...
SHEESH... WHY DID YOU DO THAT?
YOU SHOULDN'T PLAY WITH FOOD!
YES, SACHI-SAN.
THERE'S BLOWFISH INSIDE.
MUNCH
MUNCH
FUME
FUME

HUH?!
N-NO, EVERYTHING'S FINE.
IS SOMETHING WRONG, KANAKO-SAN?
I just brought the entire set.
AREN'T YOU GLAD THEY LENT US SOME SPACE IN THE REFRIGERATOR?
...HUH?


BUT THIS ISN'T QUITE THE SAME AS WHAT MARIYA WAS TELLING ME.
COULD THIS BE ANOTHER PRANK FROM RYUKEN-SAMA'S BODYGUARDS?
A MARINE PRODUCT IN MY DESK....

KANAKO THE MASTER DETECTIVE
ALL THE OTHER EXAMPLES USED RAW THINGS. I THOUGHT THAT WAS AN IMPORTANT POINT, BUT CONSIDERING THE SEAWEED INCIDENT YESTERDAY, I NOW REALIZE THAT ALL I'VE RECEIVED, ARE PROCESSED GOODS...
POINTLESS SLEUTHING!
WHAT HIDDEN MEANING COULD THAT POSSIBLY HOLD?

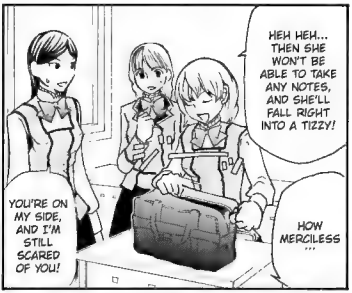
YOU'VE BEEN CARRYING THAT AROUND WITH YOU, KANAKO-CHAN?

BUT IF I SHINE THIS FLASHLIGHT ON IT...
IT LOOKS LIKE A PRETTY GREEN STONE RIGHT NOW, RIGHT?
YEAH. LET ME SEE IT FOR A MINUTE.
A Mini Maglite!
CLINK...
LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT BE FIVE CARATS.
MMM. YOU RARELY SEE AN ALEXANDRITE THAT BIG.
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE JEWEL IN THE CENTER?
?
YEAH. IT LOOKS REALLY EXPENSIVE, SO I'M AFRAID TO TAKE MY EYES OFF IT.
THE ROSARY?
IT TURNED RED?!
WHEN INCANDESCENT LIGHT TOUCHES JEWELS THAT ARE NORMALLY BLUISH-GREEN UNDER SUNLIGHT AND FLUORESCENT LIGHT, THEY TURN RED.
FLASH
THIS IS A REALLY RARE STONE.
AND THE CAT'S-EYE EFFECT MAKES IT EVEN RARER.
JUST OUT OF CURIOSITY, HOW MUCH WOULD A ROSARY LIKE THIS GO FOR?
I MIGHT HAVE TO PAY FOR IT IF I BREAK IT...
SACHI-SAN COMES FROM A FAMILY OF JEWELERS.
MY MOM TAUGHT IT ALL TO ME.
GEE...
YOU REALLY KNOW A LOT!
KYAAH

HUH? HMMM... YOU KNOW WHAT?
CAT'S-EYE ALEXANDRITES ARE VERY HARD TO FIND, SO THEY DON'T HAVE A SET MARKET PRICE.
Each one gets its own price when it appears.
SO... I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE IN THIS, BUT I GUESS IT'D GO FOR AROUND 15 MILLION.
15 MILLION...
WHAT'S THAT IN YEN?
THIS ALSO HAS A PLATINUM DIAMOND AND A BLACK PEARL IN THE BASE...
IS SOMETHING WRONG, KANAKO-CHAN?
NO... I WAS JUST REALIZING HOW YUMMY THIS JELLIED FISH IS...
SHE ...
SHE'S REALLY A TOUGH ONE...
LET'S WRAP UP THE LEFTOVERS AND TAKE IT HOME.
OH my!
HO HO HO HO! JUST LEAVE IT TO ME!
YOU MEAN YOU'VE GOT MORE PLANNED ?!
BUT THIS ISN'T OVER YET!
YOU'RE SO RELIABLE, HONOKA-SAN!!
STOMP
SILENCE...
EVERYONE'S GONE TO THE CHANGING ROOM FOR P.E.
NOW'S MY CHANCE!

I'M GOING TO SWITCH THIS WITH MIYAMAE-SAN'S PEN CASE!
SL
IDE
LOOK AT THIS! FRESH DRIED BONITO, DELIVERED STRAIGHT FROM TOSA PREFECTURE!
OH MY! IT LOOKS SO GLOSSY!

ぼあ
BWAAAH
MRRRROWR
みゃ


HEH HEH... THEN SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE ANY NOTES, AND SHE'LL FALL RIGHT INTO A TIZZY!
HOW MERCILESS...
YOU'RE ON MY SIDE, AND I'M STILL SCARED OF YOU!

ENOUGH FOR WHAT?!
WHISPER WHISPER...
NOT ENOUGH

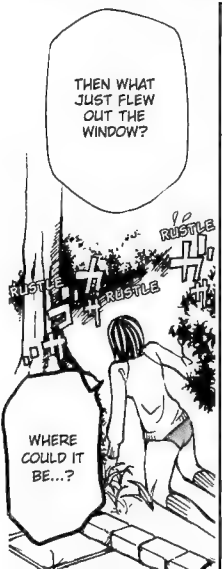
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
SLURP
SLURP
CHOMP
CHOMP
SLUUUURP

GNURP
WHA?!
GNURP
WHAT IS THAT THING?!
NORP
NURP-AH
NORP

RATTLE...
WHAT IN THE WORLD IS IN THAT BAG?!
MIYAMAE-SAN?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
I FORGOT MY GYM SHOES, SO I CAME TO GET THEM.
...THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, YOU KNOW.
FOR GETTING ALL FRIENDLY WITH RYUKEN-SAMA...
WE WERE... UMM... FEEDING IT!!
FOOD?!
WE WERE GIVING IT FOOD.
WHAT? OH... THAT'S RIGHT!! WE JUST THOUGHT IT LOOKED HUNGRY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MY BAG?
...doing something to you?
Or is it...

THEN WHY DID SHE COME ALL THE WAY TO THE CLASSROOM JUST TO SEE YOU?
BUT WE AREN'T ROOMMATES ANYMORE, SO WE REALLY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH EACH OTHER.
UMMM... I JUST HAPPENED TO END UP AS RYUKEN-SAMA'S ROOMMATE...
THAT'S RIGHT! SHE MAY BE YOUNGER THAN US, BUT SHE'S STILL ANOTHER STUDENT THAT EVERYONE LOOKS UP TO!
AND YOU GOT SHIDOU MARIYA-SAN AS YOUR NEXT ROOMMATE, RIGHT?
SHE DID COME TO ASK WHY SHE WAS THROWN OUT OF OUR ROOM ALL OF A SUDDEN, BUT... HOW SHOULD I EXPLAIN IT?
WELL...
NOOOOO!!
WHY DO YOU GET ALL THE GOOD TREATMENT?!
AND SHE LENT YOU THIS ROSARY, RIGHT?!
YOINK
AHH!!
CLICK
WHAT?!
NO! YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY-!
RATTLE

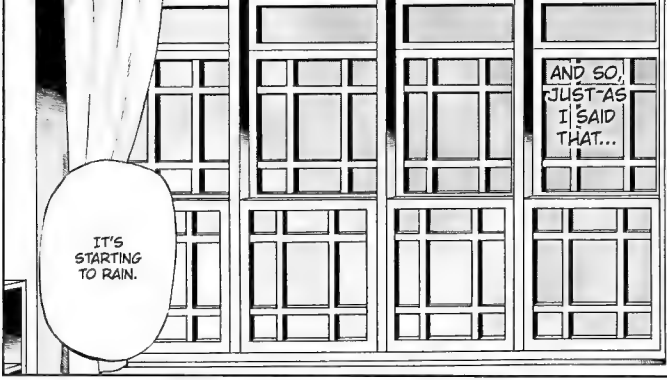
HEY
EVEN BY YOUR STANDARDS, AREN'T YOU OVERDOING IT A LITTLE?
JOLT
ビクッ
NOOOOO!
イヤァァアアアアア
THE CENTER STONE ALONE COSTS 15 MILLION!!


THEN WHAT JUST FLEW OUT THE WINDOW?
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
WHERE COULD IT BE...?

HEHEH
ふ
ふんっ
I JUST PRETENDED TO THROW IT.

SLIP
BESIDES, THE ROSARY BELONGS TO SHIDOU-SAN...
AHH!!

DID I FIND IT?!
BWOOSH
CAT EARS.
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
DON'T TELL ME SHE BROKE IT...
AHH!!
CLINK
AHH!
DON'T TELL ME THEY BELONG TO GOD...
WHOSE ARE THEY, ANYWAY?
WH-WHAT ARE THESE DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
THOSE CLOUDS LOOK REALLY OMINOUS.
I HOPE IT DOESN'T RAIN...
なにをやってるか!?
What am I doing?!
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!!
SMACK
GLANCE
GLANCE
きょろ
きょろ
SLIP...
...and short-shorts.
Cat ears...


AND SO, JUST AS I SAID THAT...
IT'S STARTING TO RAIN.

MEW~POOF!
にゃんにゃん~
SACHI-SAN ALWAYS HAS WHAT YOU NEED!
IT'S OK, YUZURU-CHAN! I BROUGHT TWO!
I DIDN'T BRING AN UMBRELLA...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

KIRI-SAN...
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE ROSARY.
I'LL JUST GO AND RETURN IT TO IT'S OWNER.
LET'S TRY WAITING A LITTLE LONGER FOR HER TO GET BACK.
I'M WORRIED.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT.
WHERE COULD KANAKO-SAN HAVE GONE WITHOUT THE ROSARY, THOUGH?
SCHOOL'S ALREADY OUT, RIGHT?

YES.
...I KIND OF FEEL A BIT BAD FOR HER.
WHAT?!
AHHH, SHE'S STILL OUT THERE SEARCHING IN THE RAIN.
#11
FSSSH
CAT EARS?
WHAT? ARE YOU GOING TO SCOLD ME NOW?!
SHE'S THE ONE AT FAULT HERE!!
WH-WHAT, YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH THEM? CAT EARS ARE CUTE, AREN'T THEY?!
WHERE DID YOU GET THOSE?
YEAH... THEY ARE CUTE...
HONESTLY, I WISH SHE'D JUST LOOK AT ME.
I KNOW THAT'S WHAT MAKES HER SO WONDERFUL, BUT...
I MEAN... RYUKEN-SAMA IS EQUALLY NICE TO EVERYONE.
HOW COULD WE JUST STAND BY AND LET THAT HAPPEN?
BUT THEN COMES THIS TRANSFER STUDENT WHO GETS SPECIAL TREATMENT, WITHOUT KNOWING A THING ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES!
WE ALL UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S PAIN, WHICH ALLOWS US TO EXERCISE SELF-CONTROL AND NOT SELFISHLY SNAG HER FOR OURSELVES.
YOU AND THE OTHER BODYGUARDS FEEL THE SAME WAY, RIGHT?

HONOKA-SAN...
PLAP
I'VE LOOKED EVERYWHERE, BUT I STILL HAVEN'T FOUND IT!
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT...
ZSSSSH
KRACK
AH!
I KNOW! I'LL KICK THE TRUNKS UNTIL IT FALLS DOWN.
NOW WHAT? I DON'T KNOW HOW TO CLIMB TREES.
DON'T TELL ME IT GOT STUCK IN A TREE OR SOMETHING...

WAAAH...
NGGH...
I...FELL DOWN.
I'M GOING TO HAVE TO PAY FOR THAT ROSARY NOW! ALL THE MONEY I EVER MAKE IN MY ENTIRE LIFE PROBABLY STILL WON'T BE ENOUGH! I'LL BE MARIYA'S SLAVE UNTIL I'M DEAD!
THIS BULLYING IS HORRIBLE! I THOUGHT MISSION SCHOOLS WERE GARDENS OF DREAMS!!
HE'LL SELL ME TO THE YAKUZA, THEY'LL FORCE ME INTO A LIFE OF PROSTITUTION, AND THEN WHEN IT'S ALL OVER THEY'LL BURY ME IN CONCRETE ON A FISHING BOAT!
MY LIFE'S RUINED!!
NO, WAIT.
DWAAAHH!
IDIOT.
WHO CARES ABOUT HOW EXPENSIVE IT WAS?
THE IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER ARE...

HE'S JUST TOYING WITH ME, AS USUAL.

THAT STORY ABOUT HIS GRANDMOTHER MUST HAVE BEEN MADE-UP TOO.

YEAH... THERE'S NO WAY HE'D LEAVE SOMETHING SO PRECIOUS WITH ME.

THAT'S IT.

THAT HAS TO BE IT...

I CAN'T FIND IT...

KIRI...
...SHAN?
RATTLE...
FWUMP
MWAAAH ?!
JUST DON'T EXPECT ME TO APOLOGIZE.
G-GO AHEAD AND USE IT.
E-EVERYONE'S HERE...
CLINK
THEN MAYBE YOU'RE LOOKING IN THE WRONG PLACE.

...BECAUSE MIYAMAE-SAN IS GOING OUT WITH ME.
MWAAHAAAAH?!
SHE'S CRYING?! EVEN THOUGH I'M THE VICTIM HERE?!
Y-YEAH, THERE'S NO WAY SHE EVER WOULD!
WAAAHH
WAIT... MAYBE I REALLY AM THE BAD ONE HERE? WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
JUST TRY TO CALM DOWN FOR NOW.
THERE WAS NO NEED FOR YOU TO DO THAT...
YOU THOUGHT THAT SHE WOULD STEAL ISHIMA RYUKEN-SENPAI FROM YOU, SO YOU GOT IN HER WAY, CORRECT?
FOR A WHILE THERE, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS GOING TO DO.
I'M GLAD YOU FOUND THE ROSARY...
BUT I'VE HARDLY EVEN TALKED TO HER.
IT'S ALMOST AS IF... SHE LIKES ME?
BECAUSE SHE'S GOING OUT WITH ME...?
BUT WHY DID MY ALIBI END UP LIKE THIS?

KANAKO-KUN?!
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN, KANAKO HAS FINALLY FOUND HERSELF A CUTE GIRLFRIEND!
I'M SO HAPPY!!
THAT'S RIGHT! WE'RE A YOUNG COUPLE!
WE CAN TAKE OUR TIME GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER!
SO? WHAT DOES THAT MATTER?!
SHE QUIT THINKING.
RYUKEN-SAMA...
WHY ARE YOU SOAKING WET?
DON'T TELL ME THIS ALSO HAS SOME-THING TO DO WITH ME...
OH, NO, IT DOESN'T.
IT, UM...
EVER SINCE YESTERDAY, I'VE BEEN THINKING.
PEEK
KANAKO-SAN! LET'S WALK HOME TOGETHER.
OH, THERE THEY ARE.
AND SO I'VE MADE A DECISION!!
I'M VERY GLAD TO KNOW THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ADMIRE ME.
IT'S SOMETHING FOR WHICH I SHOULD BE THANKFUL.
BUT THOSE OUTRAGES ARE SOME-THING THAT I CANNOT APPROVE OF.

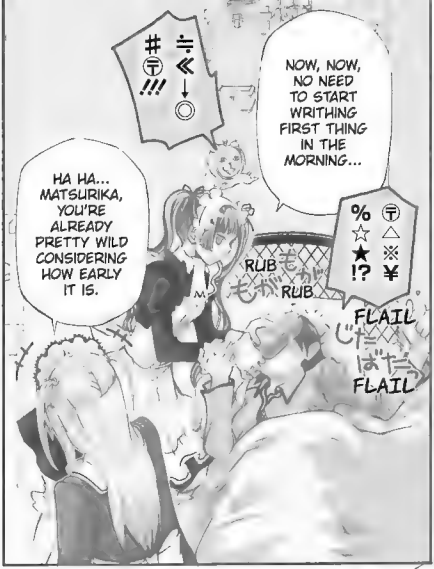
FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, I, ISHIMA RYUKEN, SHALL PROTECT YOU!
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN...
Hmph!
HOW SHOULD I BEGIN TO DESCRIBE THIS TUMULTUOUS TWIST?
熱血
Passionate!
MY MIND'S IN SUCH TURMOIL RIGHT NOW THAT I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO RESPOND.
THEREFORE, I'M LEANING TOWARDS THE "FLEE" OPTION.
ER.
STAY TUNED FOR THE NEXT EPISODE!

KAWAKAMI IS HELPLESS AGAINST BEAUTIFUL GIRLS, EVEN WHEN THEY'RE KILLING HIM.

MARIA HOLIC

I, ISHIMA RYUKEN, SHALL PROTECT YOU!!
MIYAMAE-SAN IS GOING OUT WITH ME.
CHIRP... CHIRP...
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN...
IT'S ALREADY MY THIRD DAY AT AME NO KISAKI.
YESTERDAY, A LOT OF UNBELIEVABLE STUFF HAPPENED.
I FEEL LIKE I'M IN A DREAM.
A VERY GOOD DREAM!
OHH, PLEASE JUST LET ME KEEP DREAMING...
I DON'T THINK SO, KANAKO-SAN.
PLEASE WAKE UP.
MMM...

Prayer06
The Tale of the Girl with White Knight Syndrome
GOOD MORNING.
SPLURT
ぶぃぱっ


NOW, NOW, NO NEED TO START WRITHING FIRST THING IN THE MORNING...
HA HA... MATSURIKA, YOU'RE ALREADY PRETTY WILD CONSIDERING HOW EARLY IT IS.
RUB
RUB
FLAIL
FLAIL
BWOOF

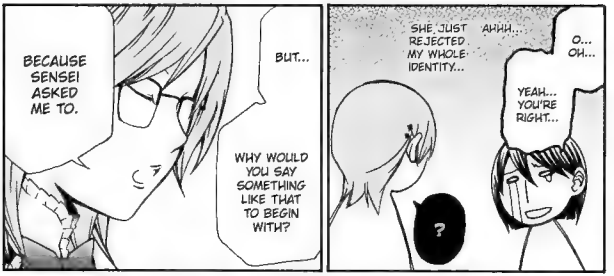
SHING!

IF YOU'RE AWAKE, THEN GO PEEK OUTSIDE THE ROOM.
FINE, BUT WHY?
CLICK...
OUT-SIDE?

SPARKLE
GOOD MORNING, KANAKO-KUN.
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
SUCH A REFRESHING MORNING, ISN'T IT?
WH-WHY IS RYUKEN-SAMA HERE?!
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
SHE LOOKS RADIANT IN HER UNIFORM!
GREAT. NOW STOP TALKING.
?
SLAM
ぽ たん。
FROM HERE ON, I, ISHIMA RYUKEN, SHALL PROTECT YOU!!!
REALLY?!
IS SHE HERE BECAUSE OF...
...WHAT SHE SAID YESTERDAY?
SHE'S SUPER SINCERE.
I DON'T MEAN THAT AS A COMPLI-MENT.
THE REAL PROBLEM IS THAT SHE'S JUST KIND OF AN ODDBALL.

STILL...
NOT ONLY ARE YOU CROSS-DRESSING, BUT YOU'RE ADDING COSPLAY INTO THE MIX?
I DIDN'T MENTION IT EARLIER, BUT WHY ARE YOU DRESSED LIKE THAT, MARIYA-SAN?
YOU REALLY ARE QUITE THE DEVIANT.
FAN SERVICE.
SHUT UP, WENCH.
I'M CHARMING AND LOVABLE EVEN WHEN I'M DISGUISED AS A SERVANT, AREN'T I?
NOW, WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT RYUKEN OUTSIDE?
IF THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE AROUND, IT ONLY ADDS TO THE LIKELIHOOD THAT SOMEONE FINDS OUT THAT I'M A GUY.
YOU BETTER TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND FIX THIS.
WHAT? ME?!
IF THERE'S ANY TROUBLE, I'LL STAB YOU.
WHERE? WITH WHAT?!
I'LL STAB YOU IN ALL YOUR PORES.
BUT WITH WHAT?!

I DON'T REALLY NEED TO DO ANYTHING. I'M SURE RYUKEN-SAMA WILL JUST BE IMPRESSED BY THE PEACEFUL AURA AROUND ME AND QUIT THE JOB HERSELF.
AFTER ALL, THE BULLYING PROBLEM HAS ALREADY BEEN SOLVED.
GOOD MORNING, MIYAMAE-SAN!
G-GOOD MORNING!!
S-SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY.
I'M SO LUCKY TO HAVE ONE OF THE SCHOOL IDOLS WORKING AS MY BODYGUARD! AND I'M GOING OUT WITH KIRI-SAN TOO!
MY TRANSFER STUDENT LIFE IS REALLY LOOKING UP!
ほわ
ぁ〜ん
BLUUUUUUSH
GOING OUT?
ME AND YOU?
NO WAY.
I'M GOING TO ROOT FOR YOU!!
I'M SORRY FOR MISUNDERSTANDING.
I NEVER WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT YOU TWO WERE...
BE GOOD TO HER!
DING DONG...
カーン
BESIDES, THERE'S NO WAY TWO GIRLS COULD EVER ACTUALLY FALL IN LOVE WITH ONE ANOTHER.
THA...
THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
きっぱり
FIRM
I ONLY SAID THAT BECAUSE I KNEW IT'D WORK THE BEST.
BUT YOU SAID...
IT DID SOLVE THE PROB-LEM, DIDN'T IT?


BECAUSE SENSEI ASKED ME TO.
BUT...
WHY WOULD YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO BEGIN WITH?
SHE JUST REJECTED MY WHOLE IDENTITY...
AHHH...
O... OH...
YEAH... YOU'RE RIGHT...
?

TAKE CARE OF MIYAMAE-SAN.
HELP HER WHEN SHE'S IN TROUBLE.
...OKAY.
AHH!!

W-WELL, YEAH, BUT...
ER...
YEAH...
I SAID "OKAY."
PROMISES ARE MADE TO BE KEPT, AREN'T THEY?
YOU WERE JUST SAYING THAT TO BE COURTEOUS, WEREN'T YOU?
B-BUT...

I STILL FEEL KIND OF DISAPPOINTED, THOUGH.
AND DISSATISFIED...
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
BUT THIS PART...
TAKES THE CAKE.
ISHIMA-SAN, TODAY ISN'T CLASS OBSERVATION DAY.
PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR CLASS-ROOM.
I REFUSE, KUMAGAI-SENSEI!!
SOMETIMES THERE ARE THINGS A WARRIOR MUST DO EVEN IF THEY'RE AGAINST THE RULES!!
SURE, FINE, JUST GO BACK TO YOUR CLASS-ROOM.
...
GRUMBLE
RATTLE
...
OKAY. NOW OPEN YOUR TEXTBOOKS, EVERYONE...
TODAY IS YOUR FIRST JAPANESE HISTORY CLASS FOR THE YEAR.
LET'S START IT OFF WITH A BANG, SHALL WE?
WONDERFUL JAPAN HISTORY 2ND YEAR!

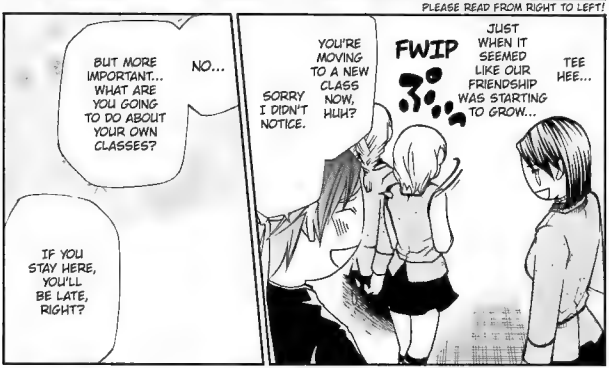
GET BACK TO THE 3RD YEAR CLASS-ROOM RIGHT NOW!!
HEY! ISHIMA-SAN!
...BUT BEFORE THAT!
ガラ
RATTLE
RATTLE
ガララ

THE PAIN OF ALL EYES ON ME...
TEE HEE...
YES! FINE! JUST GO BACK TO YOUR CLASS-ROOM.
I REFUSE.
SOMETIMES THERE ARE THINGS...
YOU'RE SAYING THAT ISHIMA-SENPAI IS YOUR BODY-GUARD?
BECAUSE HER FANS HAVE BEEN BULLYING YOU?

BUT I'M NOT SURE HOW TO TELL HER...
SO I DON'T REALLY NEED A BODYGUARD ANYMORE.
BUT THE TRUTH IS, THE PROBLEM'S ALREADY BEEN SOLVED.
YEAH...

YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL ISHIMA-SENPAI WHO THE CULPRIT IS?
YOU'RE REALLY A NICE PERSON, KANAKO-SAN.
WHAT ?!
I NEVER SAID WE FOUND OUT WHO THE CULPRIT WAS!
How did you know?!
YOU HAD HER APOLOGIZE AND MADE UP WITH HER, RIGHT?
THAT'S GREAT.
YOU HAD TO HAVE FOUND THE CULPRIT, OTHERWISE HOW COULD THE PROBLEM BE SOLVED?
It's obvious!
UH HUH! WHAT'S GREAT IS YOUR MARVELOUS SMILE!
KANAKO-CHAN, YOUR NOSE IS BLEEDING.
Use a tissue!!
THAT CREATES ANOTHER PROBLEM, THOUGH.
DRIP
DRIP
GLARE
KANAKO-KUN!
NO MATTER HOW I LOOK AT IT, IT SEEMS LIKE SENPAI'S EFFORT IS HAVING THE OPPOSITE EFFECT.
PAT
WHAT'S WRONG, MIYAMAE-SAN?
YOU DON'T LOOK WELL.
GRIN
HONOKA-SAN...

PLEASE READ FROM RIGHT TO LEFT!

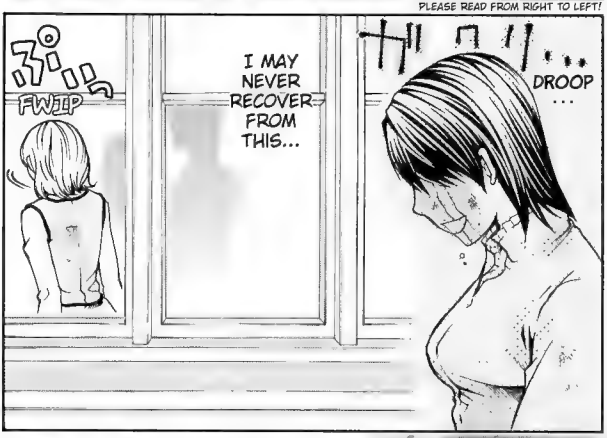

NO...
BUT MORE IMPORTANT... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT YOUR OWN CLASSES?
IF YOU STAY HERE, YOU'LL BE LATE, RIGHT?
SORRY I DIDN'T NOTICE.
YOU'RE MOVING TO A NEW CLASS NOW, HUH?
FWIP
JUST WHEN IT SEEMED LIKE OUR FRIENDSHIP WAS STARTING TO GROW...
TEE HEE...

UMM...
THAT'S REALLY SWEET OF YOU, BUT HONESTLY, IT SOUNDS LIKE IT'S GOING TO BE A HUGE PAIN IN THE ASS!!
ARE YOU SURE BODYGUARD IS THE RIGHT WORD FOR IT, AND NOT STALKER?
WHAT?!
GONG
D-DON'T TELL ME I'M ACTUALLY MAKING THINGS WORSE FOR YOU...
SHIVER
N-NO, ABSOLUTELY NOT! I'M SO HAPPY!
OH, GOOD.
AWW...
HOW COULD I POSSIBLY TARNISH THIS SMILE?
YES...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
TEE HEE
SIGH
I'M KIND OF GLAD TOO!
I GET TO SEE SUCH A POPULAR SENPAI UP CLOSE LIKE THIS!
HONESTLY, I ALSO FEEL A BIT FORTUNATE.
BUT AT THIS RATE...
NO...!! SHE'S RIGHT!!
ISHIMA-SENSEI'S WEARING HER UNIFORM!
SHE LOOKS SO WONDERFUL!!
KYAAAH
KYAAAH
WHAT A LUCKY DAY!!

AH!
ARE YOU OKAY, KANAKO-KUN?
PLEASE LET US TAKE A PICTURE WITH YOU!
SMACK
AL-GAEEE!
WHAM
PICKLED OCTOPUS!!
STOMP
THAT'S NOT FAIR! PLEASE LET ME TAKE A PICTURE TOO!!
ME TOO!!
ME THREE!!
KANAKO-CHAN! KANAKO-CHAAAN!
WALLEYE POLLOCK!
SPLAT
NOOO! KANAKO-KUN'S UPPER BODY!!
ISHIMA RYUKEN... SHE LOOKS MORE PROMISING THAN I ORIGINALLY THOUGHT.
YES, SHE APPEARS QUITE CAPABLE OF INJURING OTHER PEOPLE IN A VERY NATURAL MANNER. SHE'S DEFINITELY REDEEMED HERSELF IN MY EYES.
NO MATTER WHAT SHE DOES, IT ALWAYS BACKFIRES.

AND SO...
保健
NURSE'S OFFICE
SORRY, KANAKO-KUN...
I UNDERSTAND NOW THAT ME BEING NEAR YOU CAUSES NOTHING BUT BAD RESULTS.
AND THAT IS WHY I WILL PROTECT YOU FROM A DISTANCE FROM NOW ON!!
...
I'M WIPED OUT.
I CAN'T WAIT TO GET BACK TO THE DORM.
KNOCK
KNOCK
HM?
GRIIIN
HO... HONOKA-SAN...

PLEASE READ FROM RIGHT TO LEFT!



BUT THIS IS MY DUTY.
YOU CAN'T DO THIS, ISHIMA-SAN...
WHINE WHINE
I HEARD YOU'VE BEEN WAITING OUTSIDE THE WHOLE TIME WHILE MIYAMAE-SAN TAKES A BATH OR GOES TO THE TOILET...
THIS IS CAUSING A LOT OF TROUBLE FOR THE OTHER STUDENTS IN THE DORM, YOU KNOW?
BUT HOUSE MOTHER...
NO BUTS, ISHIMA-SAN!
DO YOU WISH TO DIE?
INSTINCTUAL FEAR
I'M SORRY! I'LL GO BACK TO MY ROOM!!
NO!
RUNNING IN THE HALLS MAY ALSO KILL YOU!
DASH

HEY! WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?!
I...
I DON'T KNOW EITHER!!
WHISPER
WHISPER
WHISPER

...THIS IS WHY I'VE DECIDED TO STAY IN YOUR ROOM.
PARDON THE INTRUSION.

SO YOU SEE...

NO!! OF COURSE NOT!
SO I AM CAUSING PROBLEMS AFTER ALL?
DROOP
IT'S A BIT CRAMPED IN HERE, BUT MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.
SWITCH

WHAT? LIM, BUT, RYUKEN-SAMA...
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I SOMEHOW MANAGED TO GET THE HOUSE MOTHER'S PERMISSION.
I HAD TO SACRIFICE A LOT IN ORDER TO GET IT, THOUGH...
SACRIFICE?!

AS I PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED, I AM GOING TO STAB YOU.
THEN I'M GOING TO PULL THE KNIFE OUT AND STAB YOU AGAIN.

GRIN
I BID YOU GOOD NIGHT.
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.
OH, GOOD NIGHT.
ACK!
SO SIMPLY STABBING ME ISN'T ENOUGH ANYMORE?
...ARE YOU STILL AWAKE?
RYUKEN-SAMA, WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
HM?
WHAT'S WRONG, KANAKO-KUN?

WHEN I WAS A CHILD, MY FAMILY HAD A DOG AND A CAT.
THEIR NAMES WERE SANEATSU AND KOHIME.
ONE DAY, SANEATSU RAN AWAY FROM HOME.
Kohime (Female)
Thinks she's the center of the world
実篤(♂)
気の強い姫春子。
Saneatsu (Male)
Son-in-law adopted into the family
鼓姫(♀)
世界の中心は自分。

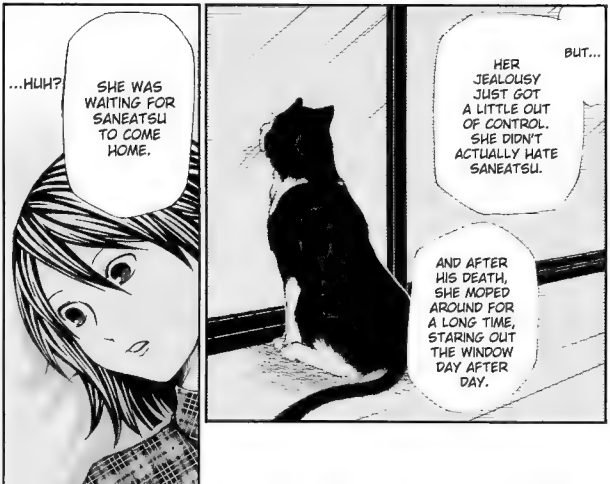
BECAUSE I DON'T LIKE FEELING LIKE AN OUTSIDER, I GUESS?
?

IT WASN'T UNTIL LATER THAT OUR HOUSEKEEPER TOLD US THE TRUTH, THOUGH.
SANEATSU GOT HIT BY A CAR AND DIED.
SHE THOUGHT I'D BE TOO SAD, SO SHE KEPT QUIET ABOUT IT FOR A WHILE.

RAN...
...AWAY?
YEAH.

AHH!
WHAAAP
A CAT BULLIED A DOG?
...THAT KOHIME OFTEN BULLIED SANEATSU.
SHE ALSO TOLD US...

SO I GUESS SHE WAS JEALOUS THAT WE TOOK SANEATSU FOR A WALK EVERY DAY.
WAG
YEAH.
WE NEVER LET KOHIME OUTSIDE...
WAG


...HUH?
SHE WAS WAITING FOR SANEATSU TO COME HOME.
BUT...
HER JEALOUSY JUST GOT A LITTLE OUT OF CONTROL. SHE DIDN'T ACTUALLY HATE SANEATSU.
AND AFTER HIS DEATH, SHE MOPED AROUND FOR A LONG TIME, STARING OUT THE WINDOW DAY AFTER DAY.

I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE SHE WANTS TO PROTECT.
IF I HAD ONLY NOTICED THEIR PROBLEMS SOONER...
I MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PREVENT BOTH OF THEM FROM GETTING HURT.
BUT IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT, RYUKEN-SAMA...
OH, I GET IT NOW.
YEAH...
BUT...
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THAT SANEATSU WAS SLEEPING IN MY OWN GARDEN.
I WAS SO DENSE THAT I COULDN'T EVEN SEE WHAT WAS HAPPENING AROUND ME.
I WAS SO CHILDISH THAT PEOPLE HAD TO HIDE THINGS FROM ME AND PROTECT ME.
I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT WRETCHED FEELING FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

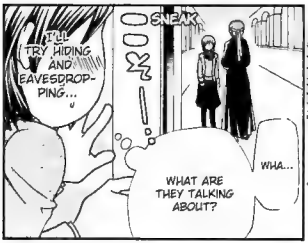
KANAKO-KUN...?
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN...
YOUR KANAKO IS ASHAMED.
DID YOU FALL ASLEEP?
ALTHOUGH RYUKEN-SAMA'S CONSIDERATION FELT LIKE A HEAVY LOAD TO BEAR...
...IT DID GIVE ME A FEELING OF SUPERIORITY.
SORRY FOR TELLING YOU THAT WEIRD STORY.
THAT MUST BE WHY...
...SHE'S LOVED BY SO MANY.
SHE'S A SWEET, PROUD...
...AND SLIGHTLY LONELY PERSON.

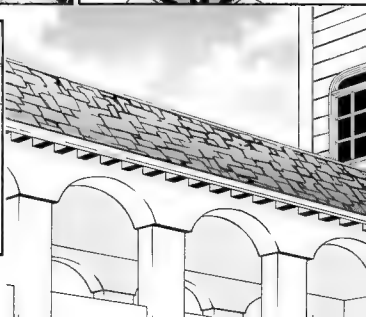
...KIND OF A PROBLEM.
THIS REALLY IS...
COLLAPSE
くったり。
KLUNK
ゴト!

AND SO, WHILE PART OF ME IS REFLECTING ON THINGS...
STAAARE
KYAAA
KYAAA
...

I NEED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT MIYAMAE-SAN. WILL YOU COME WITH ME FOR A MOMENT?
ISHIMA-SENPAI.
K-KIRI-SAN?!
SURE, BUT...

GOOD MORNING, KIRI-CHAN.
SIGH...
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
Y-YEAH, J-JUST A LITTLE...
UHH...
I SEE.


I'LL TRY HIDING AND EAVESDROP-PING...
SNEAK
こそ〜
WHA...
WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT?



NO, EXCUSE ME.
BUT WHY WOULD YOU...
I KNOW IT'S NOT RIGHT TO PASS JUDGMENT ON OTHERS' TASTES.
WHAT?
HUH?
HUH?
UH...
SORRY FOR NOT NOTICING.
AHEM
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A BIT DENSE.
THEY FOUND ME THAT FAST?!
KANAKO-KUN?!
FLINCH
Something's not right here!
なんかおかしいですぉ!?
YOU WERE EAVESDROPPING? HOW RUDE!
RYU...
RYUKEN-SAMA?!
CLUNK
CLUNK
BYE, NOW!! HAVE A HAPPY LIFE, KANAKO-KUN!
WHY DID YOU GO THAT FAR?
NOW PEOPLE WILL START GIVING YOU WEIRD LOOKS TOO, KIRI-SAN.
OTHER PEOPLE'S STARES DON'T BOTHER ME.
I TOLD HER THAT WHEN SHE'S AROUND, I GET TOO SHY TO EVEN KISS YOU.
WRRAAAT?!
THAT'S WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT.
I DON'T KNOW IF WE'LL BE ABLE TO STOP PEOPLE FROM TALKING THOUGH.
SHE SAID THAT SHE'LL KEEP IT A SECRET, SO WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY.
KIRI-SAN!
WHAT DID YOU SAY TO RYUKEN-SAMA?
THAT YOU AND I ARE GOING OUT.

SOMEONE TOLD ME TO HELP YOU.
AND I SAID OKAY TO THEM.
NO...
SO I INTEND TO DO THE BEST I CAN.
THAT ISN'T YOUR DECISION TO MAKE.
THAT'S WEIRD!
IT MAY MAKE SENSE LOGICALLY... BUT SOMETHING'S OFF HERE.
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN IT, BUT...
SOMETHING ABOUT THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE, KIRI-SAN!

THE SCHOOL BUS'S
HAS A CUTE MASCOT.
SO CHIHIRO-SAN IS
REALLY IN HEAVEN.

MARIA HOLIC

GOOD MORNING.
WHY ARE YOU DRESSED LIKE THAT?
Mariya
A TRIAL OUTFIT CAME IN, SO I TRIED IT ON.
A TRIAL OUTFIT?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
HUH.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
CLICK...
TO THE BATH-ROOM.
DON'T FOLLOW ME.
WHAT? THAT WAS A PRETTY WEAK REACTION.
GRR
PERHAPS SHE'S GOTTEN BORED OF YOU, MARIYA-SAMA?
SLAM
Mariya

Prayer07
The Tale of the Girl Who Wanted to Make 100 Friends

職員室
STAFF OFFICE
I NEVER THOUGHT SOMETHING LIKE THAT WOULD HAPPEN.
I KNOW SHE WAS JUST TRYING TO PROTECT YOU FROM THE BULLIES, BUT PRETENDING TO BE A DIFFERENT SEXUAL ORIENTATION CROSSES THE LINE...
I KNOW.
THAT'S WHY I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD ASK HER TO STOP.
OH, WELL I CAN'T DO THAT.
BECAUSE I'M THE ONE WHO ASKED HER TO HELP YOU.
I CAN'T JUST TELL HER NOT TO HELP YOU NOW.
THUNK
WHY NOT?!
We'll just have to give up.
あきらめて☆
AS I'M SURE YOU'VE ALREADY REALIZED, KIRI-SAN IS A BIT DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER GIRLS.
SHE'S A GOOD PERSON AND A HARD WORKER, BUT APPARENTLY SHE HAD TROUBLE FITTING IN WITH THE REST OF HER CLASSMATES DURING HER FIRST YEAR.
I WAS HOPING THAT THIS WOULD BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HER TO MAKE A GOOD FRIEND...
A FRIEND?
I'D LIKE TO BE HER FRIEND, IF I COULD...
BUT HOW?
DING
DONG
DING
カラーン
コローン
カラーン
TADA
んっ
べ
宮前かおこ 正正
MIYAMAE KANAKO ×2

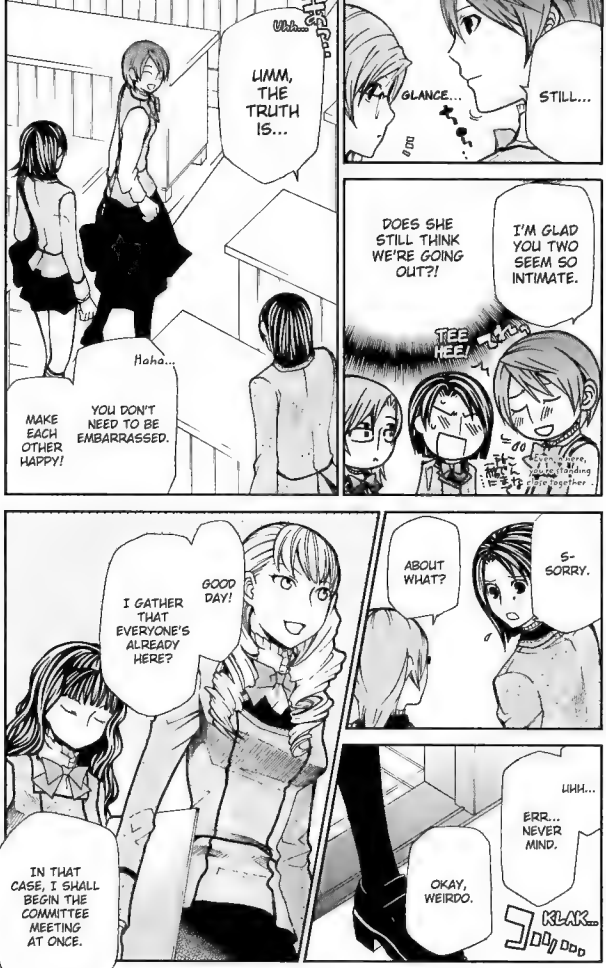
PERRY BLACKSHIP 6 / SAKAMOTO / SERIZAWA KAMOKO 3 / MIYAMAE KANAKO 12
AND THAT MAKES MIYAMAE-SAN OUR NEW CLASS REPRESEN-TATIVE!
HUUUUUH?!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
RATTLE!!

I VOTED FOR YOU! WORK HARD NOW!
EEEP!!
WHY?! I CAN'T WORK HARD!
I PUT IN A VOTE FOR YOU TOO.
NOOO!!

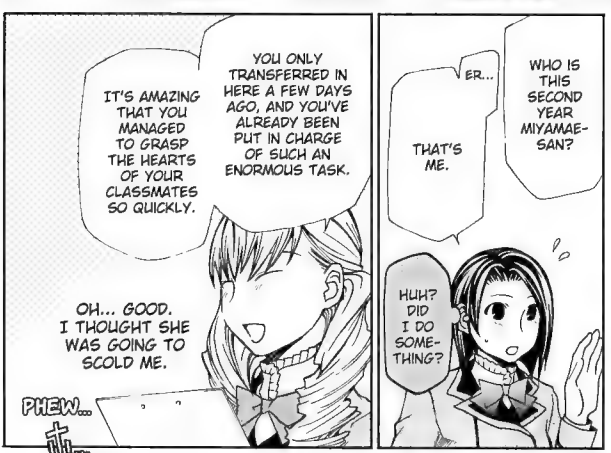
I THINK IT'D BE GREAT IF A CHEERFUL, KIND PERSON LIKE YOU PULLED OUR CLASS ALONG!!
NO!!
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO DO THAT, YUZURU-SAN!
I STOLE A GLANCE AT SACHI-SAN'S VOTING PAPER AND THEN MADE MY DECISION.
KEYWORD RECOGNITION ON
BEEEEP
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING, EVEN IF YOU EXPECT GREAT THINGS FOR ME.
YOU'LL ONLY BE ADDING TO MY TROUBLES.

NEXT, I'D LIKE TO DECIDE ON A VICE REPRESENTATIVE...
I'D LIKE TO NOMINATE MYSELF.
K-KIRI-SAN? BUT WHY...
WRAAAT?!
YOU'RE IN TROUBLE, RIGHT?
THEN I'LL ASSIST YOU.
LUH... THANKS.
IS SHE MAD ABOUT YESTERDAY?
THAT'S WEIRD!
I SAID SOMETHING KINDA MEAN...
THAT ISN'T YOUR DECISION TO MAKE.
OR MAYBE SHE'S SO INDIFFERENT TO ME THAT SHE DOESN'T REALLY CARE?
NO NO NO NO...
NOW ISN'T THE TIME TO GET DOWN ON MYSELF!!
SHAKE SHAKE

KANAKO-KUN!!
多目的教室
MULTI-PURPOSE CLASSROOM A
DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN, PLEASE WATCH OVER ME!
I'M GOING TO WORK HARD SO THAT KIRI-SAN AND I CAN BECOME ORDINARY FRIENDS.
WE HAVE A CHANCE TO WORK TOGETHER NOW.
THERE WILL BE A CLASS REP MEETING AFTER LONG HOME ROOM, SO YOU TWO WILL NEED TO STAY HERE.
I HAVE TO TAKE THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY!
RYUKEN-SAMA!!
WHAT A COINCI-DENCE!
YOU WERE CHOSEN AS CLASS REP TOO?
I GUESS THIS ISN'T SO BAD AFTER ALL, IF IT GIVES ME TIME WITH RYUKEN-SAMA...
YES! I HOPE WE CAN GET A LOT OF WORK DONE TOGETHER.
LET'S WORK HARD TOGETHER THIS YEAR!
YES!
YOU WERE CHOSEN, RYUKEN-SAMA?


Uhh...
UMM, THE TRUTH IS...
Haha...
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE EMBARRASSED.
MAKE EACH OTHER HAPPY!
GLANCE...
STILL...
DOES SHE STILL THINK WE'RE GOING OUT?!
I'M GLAD YOU TWO SEEM SO INTIMATE.
TEE HEE!
Let's work here, you're reading there together.
S-SORRY.
ABOUT WHAT?
GOOD DAY!
I GATHER THAT EVERYONE'S ALREADY HERE?
IN THAT CASE, I SHALL BEGIN THE COMMITTEE MEETING AT ONCE.
UHH...
ERR... NEVER MIND.
OKAY, WEIRDO.
KLAK...

HUH?
AFTER EVERYONE'S SELF-INTRODUCTIONS, WE'LL SELECT EACH CHAIRWOMAN BY SCHOOL YEAR...
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN THE PRESIDENT SINCE THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY. WOOOW! SHE REALLY IS BEAUTIFUL!
I AM SHIKI AYARI, YOUR STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT, AND THE ONE WHO WILL BE COORDINATING THIS MEETING.


WHO IS THIS SECOND YEAR MIYAMAE-SAN?
ER...
THAT'S ME.
HUH? DID I DO SOME-THING?
YOU ONLY TRANSFERRED IN HERE A FEW DAYS AGO, AND YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN PUT IN CHARGE OF SUCH AN ENORMOUS TASK.
IT'S AMAZING THAT YOU MANAGED TO GRASP THE HEARTS OF YOUR CLASSMATES SO QUICKLY.
OH... GOOD. I THOUGHT SHE WAS GOING TO SCOLD ME.
PHEW...

I KNOW IT WILL BE HARD ON YOU GETTING USED TO YOUR NEW SCHOOL, BUT PLEASE GIVE US YOUR BEST OVER THIS NEXT YEAR.
I'LL BE CHEERING YOU ON!
THANK YOU!!
SPLURRRT
I WILL!!

CLASS A, YOU MAY BEGIN.
THEN LET'S HAVE THE FIRST YEARS START THE INTRODUCTIONS.
Should I...
...give her a tissue?
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
BEING A CLASS REP ISN'T BAD AT ALL... IN FACT, IT'S FANTASTIC.

JUST THE OPPOSITE
I AM SHIDOU MARIYA, FROM CLASS 1-A.
IT'S AN HONOR TO BE STANDING HERE RIGHT NOW.

I'LL WORK SO HARD THAT YOU'LL NEVER HAVE ANYTHING TO DO, PRESIDENT.
WHAT A LOVELY THING TO HEAR.
GRIN
GRIN
BUT PLEASE, YOU NEEDN'T WORRY YOURSELF ABOUT ME.
NO, PLEASE, NO NEED TO ACT RESERVED.
BY ALL MEANS, TAKE A REST WHENEVER YOU FEEL TOO TIRED.
TEE HEE! BUT I'M AFRAID I DON'T HAVE ANY JOBS THAT ARE SIMPLE ENOUGH TO LEAVE TO A FIRST-YEAR! TEE HEE HEE!
THEY'RE SUCH GOOD FRIENDS...
YES! I'M SO JEALOUS!
Whoa, hold on...
IT LOOKS LIKE SPARKS COULD START FLYING ANY MINUTE NOW...
WELL, THEY ARE RELATED, AFTER ALL.
I BET THEY'VE BEEN CLOSE EVER SINCE THEY WERE LITTLE.

HUH...
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT. HMM...
LOOKS LIKE I GOT ANOTHER SECRET ABOUT MARIYA...
AHH
I'M NOT GETTING ANY BUTTERFLIES!!
I'M NOT FEELING LIKE A PRINCESS AT ALL RIGHT NOW, KIRI-SAN!!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU'RE ALL BEING TRICKED!!
HE'S ROTTEN!
BOTH HIS HEART AND HIS MIND ARE ROTTEN TO THE CORE, AND HE'S A GUY!
GOSH!
I VOTE SHIDOU-SAN FOR CHAIR-WOMAN!
ME TOO!
ME TOO!
ME TOO!!
BUT THEN WHY DOES EVERYONE ELSE LOVE HIM?!
WAAAAHHH
THIS IS HORRIBLE!!
Hmph!
ENVY DOESN'T BECOME YOU.

GRIEN
LOOKS LIKE WE'LL BE SPENDING A LOT MORE TIME TOGETHER, BOTH HERE AND AT THE SCHOOL.
YOU CAN ASK ME FOR HELP WHENEVER YOU NEED IT, YOU KNOW?
WH-WHO WOULD EVER ASK YOU...?
AND BESIDES, WHENEVER I'M IN TROUBLE, KIRI-SAN WILL...
OH, WAIT
Hey.
YOU HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS, DON'T YOU, MARIYA?
Ignore...
I'LL ASK YOU STRAIGHT, THEN. HOW DO YOU BECOME FRIENDS WITH A CERTAIN PERSON?
FRIENDS?
IF YOU MEAN FOLLOWERS, THEN YES, I HAVE A LOT.
?
HOW ABOUT JUST ASKING THEM IF THEY'LL BE YOUR FRIEND?
IF IT WAS SO EASY, THEN I WOULDN'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE!!
WHY ARE YOU ANGRY?
HE'S USELESS!

YEAH.
BUT WHAT KIND OF A PERSON IS KIRI-SAN?
WELL...
SHE'S A BIT DIFFERENT FROM OTHER PEOPLE, I SUPPOSE?
A PLAN TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH KIRI-SAN, HUH?
"THANK YOU VERY MUCH."
"?"
THE OTHER DAY, SHE PICKED UP AN ERASER I HAD DROPPED ON THE GROUND FOR ME, BUT...
"WHY ARE YOU THANKING ME?"
HOW ABOUT GIVING HER A SNACK AND THEN USING THAT TO START UP A CONVERSATION?
二本使って☆
: Use this!
THEN SHE REQUESTED THAT I DON'T THANK HER FOR THINGS LIKE THAT...
SHE SAID THAT JUST BECAUSE SHE PICKED SOMETHING UP AND GAVE IT BACK TO ME, IT DIDN'T NECESSARILY MEAN SHE LIKED ME OR WANTED TO BE FRIENDLY WITH ME.
YIKES
うわ
SHE'S GOT LOUSY SOCIAL SKILLS.
AH! HERE SHE COMES.
SURE, I'LL TRY THAT!

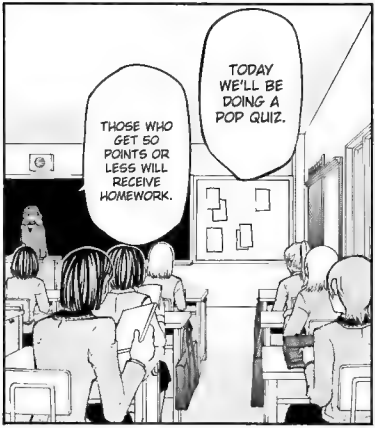
KIRI-SAN! WANT TO SHARE A SNACK WITH ME?
NO.
THE-!
THE CONVERSATIONS KEEP ENDING!!
STRANGE...
KIRI-SAN, YOU'RE ON DAY SHIFT TODAY, RIGHT?
NISHIZAKI-SENSEI TOLD ME TO COME PICK UP THE PRINTS.
UNDERSTOOD.
WHISPER
ヒソヒソ
THEN JUST HIDE HERS!
BUT KIRI-SAN NEVER SEEMS TO FORGET ANYTHING.
FIDGET
SINCE YOU SIT NEXT TO HER, LET HER READ OUT OF YOUR TEXTBOOK OR SOMETHING!
I KNOW!
HUH?
IT'LL BE FINE IF YOU GIVE IT BACK TO HER AFTERWARDS.
SSHHH
WHAT?! BUT THAT'S...

K-K-K-KIRI-HYAN, DID YOU FORGET YOUR TEXTBOOK?!
YES.
I KNOW I PUT IT IN MY BAG, THOUGH.
MUSIC IS CLASHING WITH MY CLIPPED OVERHEARING LOVE!
薔薇兄弟
BARA BROTHERS
TA-DAH
IT'S OKAY!
WE CAN JUST USE MINE TOGETHER!!
YOUR FIRST LOVE, BITCH
...
ERGGH?!
THIS ISN'T IT!!
SHOVE
NOT THIS BIZARRE ITEM...
兄貴と俺
ME AND BIG BRO
SPILL
ぶちまける

HERE THEN, USE THIS.
I'LL JUST READ OUT OF YUZURU-CHAN'S.
RATTLE...
THANKS, SACHI-SAN.
OH, SENSEI'S HERE!

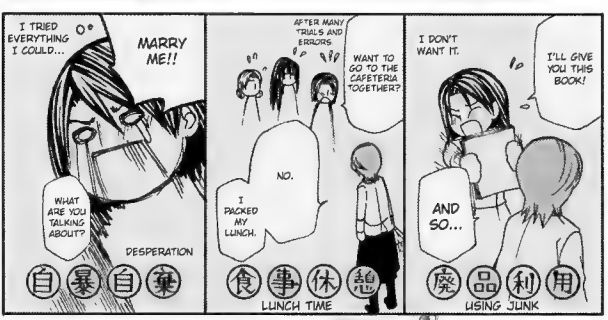
あんにゃろう
WHAT'S WRONG, KANAKO-CHAN?
WHISPER
MUTTER
THAT SON OF A BITCH... HE GOT ME AGAIN...
MUTTER
AHH... I FEEL HIVES COMING ON...

WHISPER
WHISPER
WHISPER...
OH MY...
MACHO...
ERR, I MEAN, IT LOOKS LIKE I FORGOT MY TEXTBOOK...

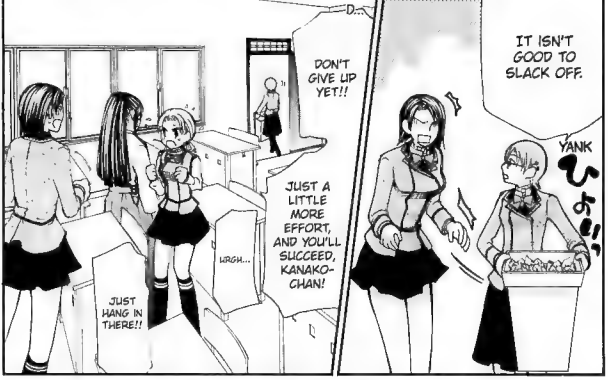

TODAY WE'LL BE DOING A POP QUIZ.
THOSE WHO GET 50 POINTS OR LESS WILL RECEIVE HOMEWORK.

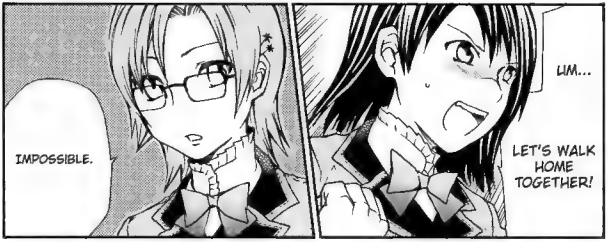
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING! SHALL WE PUSH OUR DESKS TOGETHER NOW?
SPIN
OK, EVERYONE, PLEASE SHUT YOUR TEXTBOOKS.
I LOVE ENGLISH

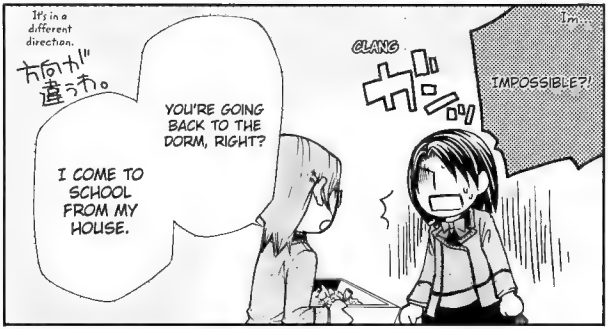
?
SURE YOU WILL! HANG IN THERE!
I-I'LL GET ANOTHER CHANCE, WON'T I?!


I TRIED EVERYTHING I COULD...
MARRY ME!!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
DESPERATION
自暴自棄
AFTER MANY TRIALS AND ERRORS
WANT TO GO TO THE CAFETERIA TOGETHER?
NO.
I PACKED MY LUNCH.
食事休憩
LUNCH TIME
I DON'T WANT IT.
I'LL GIVE YOU THIS BOOK!
AND SO...
廃品利用
USING JUNK

I'M GOING TO TAKE THE TRASH OUT!
KIRI-SAN! I'LL DO YOUR CHORES FOR YOU TODAY!
BUT I CAN'T GIVE UP HERE!
I'LL JUST HAVE TO FORCE MY WAY IN...
FWOOM
SQUEAK
きゅっ
SQUEAK
きゅっ
AND SOON, CLASSES HAD ENDED FOR THE DAY.
URGH...
SHE'S REALLY A TOUGH CASE.


IT ISN'T GOOD TO SLACK OFF.
YANK
ひょ!!
DON'T GIVE UP YET!!
JUST A LITTLE MORE EFFORT, AND YOU'LL SUCCEED, KANAKO-CHAN!
UGGH...
JUST HANG IN THERE!!


UM...
LET'S WALK HOME TOGETHER!
IMPOSSIBLE.


I'm...
IMPOSSIBLE?!
CLANG
ガシッ!!
YOU'RE GOING BACK TO THE DORM, RIGHT?
I COME TO SCHOOL FROM MY HOUSE.
It's in a different direction.
方向が"
違うわ。

I'M GOING TO WEAR THIS AND GO AFTER KIRI-SAN. THEN, KANAKO-CHAN, YOU'RE GOING TO SWOOP IN AND RESCUE HER!
R-REALLY? NOT A TYRANT?!
YOU'RE GOING TO BE A HERO, KANAKO-CHAN!!
YEAH, A DESPOT!!
...DO YOU NEED ME TO PROVIDE A PUNCHLINE?
GOODBYE.
AAAHH...
D-DON'T CRY, KANAKO-CHAN...
よし!!
Okay!!
I'LL JUST HAVE TO DO THIS BY FORCE NOW!
I THOUGHT SOMETHING LIKE THIS MIGHT HAPPEN! I'M SO GLAD I BROUGHT MY SUSPICIOUS PERSON SET WITH ME!!
SACHI-SAN'S LEFT POCKET REALLY IS A WONDERLAND.
Goodbye.
さようなら。
I HAVE TO GO TO CLUB PRACTICE, SO I CAN'T JOIN YOU, BUT I'M PRAYING FOR YOUR SUCCESS.
OK! KIRI-SAN'S COMING!!
OF COURSE NOT. I WOULD NEVER RUN FROM SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
YOU SURE YOU AREN'T JUST TIRED OF ALL THIS?

H-HAND OVER ALL YOUR MONEY, KIRI NANAMI!!
FWOOSH
FSH FSH FSH
FSSSH
Here I go!!
STAY HIDDEN UNTIL I GIVE YOU THE SIGNAL, KANAKO-CHAN!
I-I'M COUNTING ON YOU, SACHI-SAN!!

SILENCE...

WHAT?!
NO? THEN WHAT ARE YOU?
N-NO, I, UM... I'M NOT MOMO! SACH!...
UHH...
HERE YOU GO.
YOU CAN RETURN IT WHENEVER YOU LIKE, MOMOI-SAN.
WHAT?!
UHM... 300 YEN?
CLIIINK
HOW MUCH?
...

WAAAAAAAAHHH!!
DROP...
... NO...
I'M...
THUD
MOMOI-SAN?
I'M SORRY.
...JUST REALLY WANTED TO BECOME FRIENDS WITH YOU...
...TRIED TO INVITE YOU TO LUNCH, HIDE YOUR TEXTBOOK, AND GET CLOSE TO YOU.
SO I DECIDED TO DRESS UP LIKE A SUSPICIOUS PERSON AND ATTACK YOU, SO THAT (KANAKO-CHAN) COULD COME SAVE YOU.
SHE...
...WANTS TO BE FRIENDS WITH ME?
BLURT...
WAAAAHH!

HUH?
I'M HAPPY...

SO, AS LONG AS YOU DON'T MIND THAT I AM WHO I AM, I'LL GRACIOUSLY ACCEPT YOUR REQUEST.
KIRI-SHAN...
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
MY BEHAVIOR AND MY VALUE SYSTEM SEEM VERY STRANGE TO OTHER PEOPLE.
ON TOP OF THAT, I'M AWFUL AT GUESSING WHAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE THINKING AND GOING WITH THE FLOW.
NO ONE'S EVER WANTED TO BE MY FRIEND BEFORE.

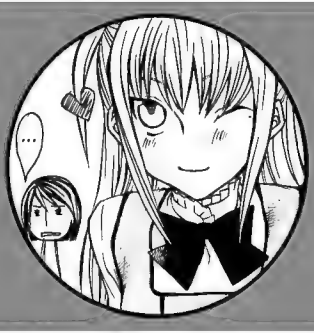
MEANWHILE, BACK WITH KANAKO-SAN...
SHE STILL...
...HASN'T GIVEN THE SIGNAL YET...
FIDGET
FIDGET
OKAY! Can I call you Nanami-chan?
SO YOU LIVE AT HOME TOO, MOMOI-SAN?
LET'S WALK HOME TOGETHER.
SPEAKING OF WHICH...
WHAT IS THE SIGNAL, ANYWAY?
SORRY FOR FORGETTING YOU YESTERDAY, KANAKO-CHAN!
HERE, TAKE THESE SNACKS AND CHEER UP!
VERY-FAMOUS SOMEWHERE
MOST-MADE-WORLDWIDE
マシュマロ
DELICIOUS ENOUGH TO PUMS OUT!

DEAR MOTHER IN HEAVEN...
IT'S VERY HARD TO UNDERSTAND OTHER PEOPLE...
I WANNA BE FRIENDS TOO!
ME TOO!!
GLADLY. I HOPE WE CAN GET ALONG WELL, INAMORI-SAN.
CAN WE BECOME FRIENDS TOO, THEN?

BUT IT HELPED ME AND KIRI-SAN BECOME FRIENDS, SO IT ALL WORKED OUT FOR THE BEST.
GREAT!
?
=PHEW

I'M FRIENDS WITH MOMOI-SAN, NOT MIYAMAE-SAN.

WHAT?! THEN WHAT ABOUT ME?
YOU'RE MY CLASSMATE. RIGHT?



EVERY DAY IS FULL OF EXCITEMENT FOR KANAKO-SAN.

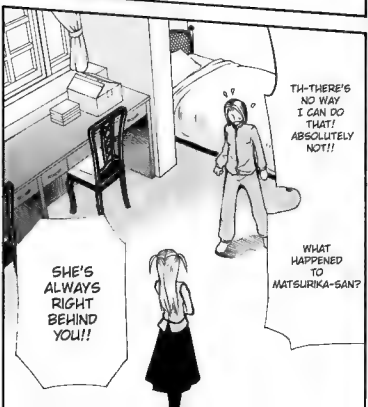
MARIA HOLIC

Spin-Out
Matsurika's Diary

YOU...
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT.
SIGH...
WE'RE ALL ALONE NOW, KANAKO-SAN.

GRIN
NOOOO!!
YOU'RE GOING TO BE ALONE WITH ME FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS UNTIL YOUR GRADUATE.
ALSO, TECHNICALLY, IT WON'T JUST BE ONE NIGHT.

WHOA...
HOLD ON A SECOND!
ARE YOU ASKING ME TO SPEND THE NIGHT ALONE WITH A GUY?!
NO WAY!
THAT'S NOT REALLY BELIEVABLE YOU WHEN YOUR NOSE IS BLEEDING LIKE THAT, LESBO.
AME NO HI SAKI GIRLS' DORM NUMBER TWO


TH-THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DO THAT! ABSOLUTELY NOT!!
WHAT HAPPENED TO MATSURIKA-SAN?
SHE'S ALWAYS RIGHT BEHIND YOU!!

THE ONE WITH THE IDIOTIC FACE IS KANAKO-SAMA.
SHE'S A PATHETIC LITTLE GIRL WHO WAS REDUCED TO NOTHING MORE THAN MARIYA-SAMA'S LIVESTOCK AFTER A LITTLE TWIST OF FATE.
...
HOW MAY I HELP YOU?
GOOD EVENING. MATSURIKA HERE.
CLUNK
WHERE DID SHE...?
I'M RIGHT HERE.
WHERE DID YOU JUST COME FROM?
OH, DON'T YOU KNOW?
IN THE HUMAN WORLD, AS WELL AS THE COUNTRY CALLED JAPAN, WE CALL THESE THINGS 'WINDOWS.'
THAT WASN'T WHAT I WAS ASKING.
HMPH
THAT'S QUITE AN ARROGANT RESPONSE FROM SOMEONE WHO'S QUESTIONING OTHER PEOPLE.
WHAT?!
MY MOOD HAS BEEN RUINED, SO I'M LEAVING.
WAIT! DON'T GO!
I'M SORRY! I'LL APOLOGIZE!!

I CAN'T BEAR BEING ALONE WITH HIM ALL NIGHT!
PLEASE STAY OVER!!
NO WAY.
SO CURT!!
OH KANAKO-SAN...
WOULD YOU LET MATSURIKA GO AND LOOK AT THIS INSTEAD?
THE TRANNY OFTEN SPURTS OUT BULLSHIT LIKE THAT.
I THINK JERKS LIKE HIM SHOULD HAVE THEIR GUTS STREWN OUT ON THE ROAD AS THEY WRITE IN AGONY.
OR A SLIGHTLY MATURE BABY-DOLL?
A LOVELY NEGLIGEE?

WHICH ONE SHOULD I SLEEP IN TONIGHT?
WOULD YOU PLEASE CHOOSE FOR ME, KANAKO-SAN?
UM... ERR, OF COURSE.
I THINK BOTH OF THEM WOULD LOOK LOVELY INDEED...
GRIN
ニヤリ
DRIP
DRIP
IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME PATTERN EVERY TIME. WHY DOES SHE KEEP FALLING FOR IT?
ENJOY THE PULLING.
GROWL
SAYING THAT A PERSON IS TOO NICE MAY SOUND LIKE A COMPLIMENT, BUT IN TERMS OF THE FOOD CHAIN, IT JUST MEANS THEY'RE ON THE BOTTOM.
THEY'RE DESTINED TO BE DEVOURED.
IF THEY DON'T REFLECT ON THEMSELVES AT SOME POINT, THEY'LL EVENTUALLY GET EVERYTHING YANKED AWAY FROM THEM, RIGHT DOWN TO THE LAST PUBIC HAIR.
ほぅ…
PAT

AT THIS RATE, I MAY START SUFFERING FROM MENTAL EXHAUSTION.
OR GO BALD.
BESIDES, HAVING TO DEAL WITH HIM DAILY KEEPS MY STRESS LEVEL AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH.
SEEING OTHER PEOPLE SUFFER HEALS ME.
PERSONALLY, THOUGH, I REALLY ENJOY THESE SORTS OF THINGS, SO I WELCOME THEM.
MATSURIKA-SAN?!
Pulling what?!
PWIEP
SHINY AND SMOOTH, ALL THE WAY AROUND.
HE'S THE ONE WHO SHOULD GO BALD.
STUNNED BY MY BEALITY?
HUH?!
WHAT'S WRONG, MATSURIKA?
AND THAT'S NOT FAIR.
OOF
KANAKO-SAMA'S GOING TO HAVE EVERYTHING PULLED OUT OF HER, AND MARIYA-SAMA'S GOING TO BECOME SHINY AND SMOOTH.
NOW THEN, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.
MATSURIKA-SAN!!.
WHAT'S GOING TO BECOME SHINY AND SMOOTH?!
SILKY SMOOTH.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ALL OF A SUDDEN?!
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SQUEEZE

YOU'LL SLEEP WITH US?!

TRY ANYTHING WEIRD AND YOU'LL REGRET IT.

I... I WON'T!!

BUT PERHAPS I HAVE NO RIGHT TO JUDGE OTHERS.

AFTER ALL, I'M TOO NICE AS WELL.

THEY DO SAY THAT THE STUPIDER THE GIRL, THE CUTER THEY ARE.
I'M NOT SO CRUEL AS TO SLAP AWAY A HAND THAT'S GRASPING FOR HELP.
NO...
IS THERE SOME PROBLEM?
YOU'RE GOING TO SLEEP LIKE THAT, MATSURIKA-SAN?
CHIRP
チチ
CHIRP
チュン
NWAAAH!
GOOD NIGHT, MATSURIKA-SAN.
請求書
添い寝付金として
¥105,000
INVOICE/ SLEEPING TOGETHER COST/ 105,000 YEN
MATSURIKA-SAN?!
WAAAUGH!
OF COURSE, I STILL REQUIRE COMPENSATION.

To be continued...

...COOORNER...
THIS IS THE BONUS MANGA...
NOW THAT THIS HAS ALL BEEN GATHERED UP INTO A SINGLE BOOK...
PLEASE, JUST LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.
...I WAS ABLE TO LOOK BACK ON MY JOURNEY UP TO THIS POINT.
NIWAAAH!
PLEASE! NO SEXUAL HARASSMENT!
STOP BEING SO LAZY!
WANT ME TO GROPE YOU?
THIS IS TERMINAL!
I FEEL REALLY SORRY FOR MYSELF.
THROB
スキャーン
WELL, THAT'S JUST YOUR ROLE IN THE STORY.
There's nothing you can do about it.
仕方ない
Yup.
なのだ
IT'S JUST YOUR ROLE.
SO YOU CAME TO THRUST IT UNDER MY NOSE?
UH...
THIS HARD-TO-ACCEPT REALITY...

"I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE A GUY. PLEASE MARRY ME."
...
IT'S FROM A MALE IN HIS 20S.
SHUT UP AND LET ME READ IT!
STOP SULKING.
NOT ONLY DID YOU GRACE THE COVER OF ALIVE MAGAZINE, BUT YOU'RE ON THE COVER OF THE VOLUME AS WELL! I WISH I COULD SHARE YOUR LUCK.
FEH.
THIS IS A LETTER TO MARIYA-SAN.
OH... YOU REALLY ARE POPULAR, MARIYA-SAN...
SINCE WE'RE HERE, I KIND OF WANT TO TRY READING SOME MESSAGES FROM OUR READERS, EVEN IF IT SEEMS SUDDEN.
OKAY, I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE OF THAT.
FWIP
MARIYA-SAAAN... THE CONTENTS OF YOUR MIND ARE SPILLING OUT.
THOSE ARE SOME LINES FOR HOW ADMIRABLE SHE'S ACTING.
I DON'T THINK I COULD EVER LET ONE PERSON CLAIM OWNERSHIP OVER ME...
I'M AN IDOL TO THE PEOPLE. A STAR FOR PEOPLE ACROSS THE WORLD TO ACQUIRE HOPE FROM, IF YOU WILL.
ARE YOU FREAKIN' KIDDING ME, YOU GROSS NERD?
I... I'M HAPPY TO HEAR SUCH A THING, BUT...
FIDGET...
OH...
FORGET WHAT I SAID.
NOOOOOO!!
AND I'M PRETTY SURE I'LL BE ON THE COVER OF VOLUME 2.
Whaaat?!
NO WAY! READ IT OUT LOUD!
OH... UNFORTU-NATELY, WE'RE ALL OUT OF PAGES.
THERE'S A LOVE-FILLED LETTER ADDRESSED TO YOU AS WELL, KANAKO-SAN.
HUH?
NO ONE ASKED YOU WHAT YOU LIKED...
ALL I LIKE IS MONEY AND POWER!!
SHUT UP! I HATE MEN!
YOU SHOULD BE THANKFUL THAT YOU EVEN GOT A LETTER!
COME ON! YOU NEED TO GIVE A MORE SERIOUS ANSWER.

MARIA HOLIC
Volume 1

KADOKAWA MANGA

Story and Art by
Minari Endou

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